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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

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INSIDE



Free Trade

Leaders agree that opening markets to free trade is crucial to a lasting recovery.

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Waterlogged

Monuments in Thailand's one-time royal capital may have been damaged.

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New Girl

Adorkable Zooey Deschanel is the face of the new half-hour sitcom.

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'Mrs. Pai was charged only because she is Mike Pai's wife' **PAGE 6**

Few CW petitions trigger concerns



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

- » Less than 3 pct. of estimated 13,399 'potentially eligible' petitioned so far
- » 2 more sessions target employers that have yet to petition aliens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Many employers are still confused and unsure about the information they have on the Commonwealth-only worker petition process, resulting in less than 3 percent of foreign workers who have so far been petitioned for CW status as of Nov. 4.

Of the estimated 13,399 foreign workers who are "potentially eligible" for Form I-129CW petitions, only 366 have so far been petitioned by their employers.

This leaves an estimated 10,000 more foreign workers who have yet to be petitioned by their CNMI employers, barely two weeks before the Nov. 27 deadline.

See PETITIONS on Page 4

NMI Catholic faithful prepare for language changes in Holy Mass

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

New words, same Mass.

This is what the Catholic faithful will see in churches throughout the world come Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent, as one of the world's largest religions implements the changes in the English liturgy approved in 2010 by the Vatican, the central governing body of the Catholic Church.

These changes are reflected in the third edition of the Roman Missal, the liturgical book that contains the text—including prayers and instructions—for

See CATHOLIC on Page 4

10.7 pct. reduction in LEAC rate eyed

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

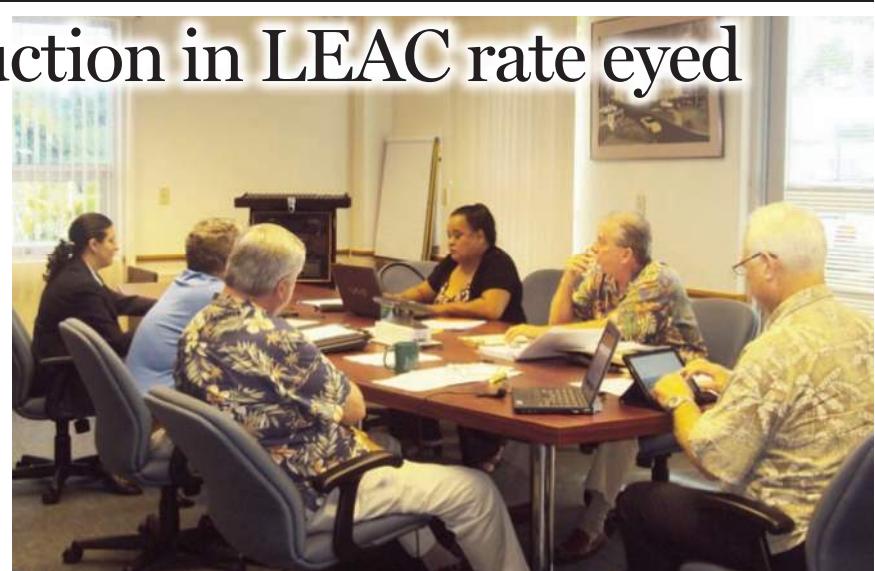
The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's independent consultant yesterday proposed a 10.7-percent reduction in the existing leveled energy adjustment clause, or LEAC rate.

CUC and Georgetown Consulting Group

See LEAC on Page 4

RELATED NEWS

- Central government, public schools owe CUC \$6M. **PAGE 3**
- Georgetown lawyer, CUC chief in heated talks. **PAGE 6**



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Representatives of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and Georgetown Consulting Group face the Public Utilities Commission yesterday to justify their joint petition seeking a 10.7-percent reduction in the LEAC rate. The commission is expected to render a decision this weekend.



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Local

'Let full House decide on Fund withdrawals bill'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A committee that reviewed a bill allowing non-retired members of the NMI Retirement Fund to withdraw their contributions from the pension agency without severance of employment or penalties has recommended that the full membership of the House decide on the legislation.

The Committee on Health and Welfare, chaired by Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), said yesterday that the panel sees both potential benefits and possible adverse effects if House Bill 17-226 is enacted.

"As a result, the members of the committee find it reasonable and necessary that the full membership of the House participate in deciding what action to take on the measure," the committee said in its report.

HB 17-226, introduced by Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) on Sept. 21, may be acted on during today's session, along with a new House bill seeking to legalize casino gambling on Saipan.

Iguel's panel said the enactment of HB 17-226 may help the CNMI government by authorizing qualified government employees to withdraw their contributions from the Fund,

thus decreasing the government's financial obligation to the pension fund."

The committee, in its four-page Nov. 14 report, said while the benefits of the bill are far reaching, its enactment into law may shorten the "already short lifespan of the Retirement Fund, prompting strong opposition of its passage by the NMI Retirement Fund."

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez, in a Sept. 26 letter to the speaker, said the bill has "ambiguities and problems" that need to be rectified.

The Fund said the bill will allow 2,996 active employee

members to withdraw their employee contributions, and at the same time about 2,940 members receiving benefits as retirees, surviving spouses and surviving children will be left with only a little over \$175 million to support their accrued benefits.

The annual cost for benefits alone in 2009 was over \$63 million, a figure that's a little higher as others retire or refund.

"Without current funding support for those that are retired and their surviving spouses and children, the Fund will definitely run out of funds to make payments in less than three years," Villagomez said.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Sora Ike Tabi Fiesta 2011

The Marianas Visitors Authority reached out to over 41,000 attendees at the Sora Ike Tabi Fiesta 2011 held on Oct. 15 and 16 in Sendai, Japan, sharing information about Northern Marianas tourism attractions to potential tourists.

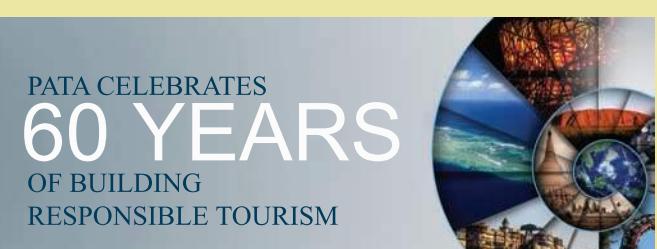


The fiesta was held at Brandoom Ichiban-cho/Sun Mool Ichibancho, the most popular shopping streets in Sendai. The consumer travel show was organized by Sendai Airport Internationalization Promotion Committee and Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA), and sponsored by the Sendai Chamber of Commerce.



At the Northern Marianas booth, the MVA distributed destination brochures, Saipan-da! stickers, and wristbands. Saipan-da! backpacks were also awarded as raffle prizes throughout the 2-day event.

A total of 35 tourism-related organizations participated, including national tourist offices, local governments, airlines, and travel agencies. More visitors and booths were part of the event compared to last year. Although Sendai suffered great damage from the March 2011 earthquake, signs of recovery are seen, including the restoration of normal operations at Sendai Airport.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

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Central government, public schools owe CUC \$6M

» **PUC slams utilities execs for unfair treatment to customers**
 » **Disconnection notices to be issued to public schools**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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 REPORTER

Public Utilities Commission chair Viola Alepuyo is concerned about the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s long-standing practice of letting its paying patrons—residential customers and commercial businesses—subsidize the shortfall of its delinquent customers and for letting these delinquent accounts be reconnected without paying a single penny.

Of particular concern for Alepuyo are the burgeoning unpaid accounts of the central government and the Public School System, both of which top the list of accounts with huge unpaid obligations.

"Here's my concern. We don't want to put our kids out of the schools or lose federal funding because God knows we need them. But we also need to make sure that we keep PSS on its toes and pay what is supposed to be paid. If they can't pay and they come in and promise a repayment plan, we have to make sure that it is based on good faith to act. It sounds like that it's all words from PSS but nothing has been done. In the meantime, CUC still has to pay for fuel to continue providing electrical usage to people but it's paying

customers—the residential and businesses—who are subsidizing for them and that's troublesome," Alepuyo told CUC officials during yesterday's meeting.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren disclosed that as of Sept. 30 this year, the central government owes CUC \$2.4 million while PSS owes \$3.6 million.

Warren said that CUC has \$7.025 million in total government receivables as of September this year, with PSS' and central government's obligations representing the bulk of that amount. Other autonomous agencies' debt total \$772,511 while the Northern Marianas College owes \$117,285.

CUC officials also disclosed yesterday that it had rejected the proposed memorandum of understanding submitted by PSS, which seeks to pass on \$1.7 million of its unsettled account to the central government.

Although the central government has acknowledged that it will shoulder this \$1.7 million debt, Deborah Fisher, CUC legal counsel, said that there was no clear repayment plan.

She said they are now drafting a new agreement that will set a definite time to settle this debt, whoever between PSS and the central government is re-

sponsible for this obligation.

The \$1.7 million PSS obligation is being passed on to the government to offset the budget allotments for public schools that the central government failed to remit last fiscal year.

According to Fisher, CUC officials have also discussed the possibility of shutting down public schools, but in the end were asked to defer the action because PSS is going to pay. However, no deadline has been set by both PSS and CUC for this.

Warren disclosed that PSS was supposed to be disconnected since last week but because it requested some days to make the payment, disconnection notices were deferred. However, PSS has yet to make good on this promise and no school has been cut off from the CUC grid, he said.

According to Warren, CUC purchases fuel every other day and pays \$1.5 million for this every week. The \$6 million collectible from PSS and central government, he said, translates to a month's supply of fuel. He confirmed that paying customers and CUC vendors subsidize the cash shortfall.

CUC vs power authorities in other areas

Although the problem of a delinquent central government is not



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Attendees to a public hearing yesterday listen to the speakers during deliberations on the \$6 million receivables from the central government and the school system. Sitting from right are Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Abe Utu Malae, Sen. Juan Ayuyu, Rep. Frank Dela Cruz, and Sen. Jude Hofsneider. Standing is former representative Rosemond Santos.

unique to the CNMI, Georgetown Consulting said that there is a difference in how disconnection policies are implemented. He cited instances in Guam where portion of hospitals, schools, and government offices were cut off for some time due to unpaid government obligations for power and water.

The same has happened in the U.S. Virgin Islands, when its power authority cut off autonomous agencies' offices and portion of its public hospital.

PUC also discovered that CUC had reconnected power and water without charge—a violation of its own policy—at the "request" of the administration or the Legislature.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (Rep-Saipan) expressed disappointment with this practice and asked CUC officials to adhere

to its own policy and regulations and remove the special treatment accorded the central government, including PSS.

CUC's Warren disclosed that disconnection of power lines is "beyond my control but my bosses."

CUC remains without a board of directors, so although it is no longer under an emergency, it is still technically under the Executive Branch.

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Medicare uncovers prevalent outdated prescriptions at hospital

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently issued a report to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. enumerating several deficiencies it uncovered during its last resurvey at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Health corporation CEO Juan N. Babauta confirmed this with *Saipan Tribune*, describing the report as voluminous and with majority of deficiencies dealing with outdated prescription drugs.

"The report is very detailed...and we've been having a lot of issues with respect to outdated prescription drugs in our hospital. That's the Medicare findings in the latest report we re-

ceived," said Babauta, adding that the corporation has two weeks to respond to the report and is now in the process of completing the response.

Babauta described the other concerns as minor deficiencies, including unclosed doors and close contamination issues at some hospital sections.

Medicare representatives inspected the hospital in September this year as part of the federal agency's resurvey of the facility.

"But I am happy to say that there are no major issues with respect to meeting the standards set forth by Medicare. We're working on our response and we are going to submit it on the deadline. We will respond accordingly to all their findings," he said.

He said the corporation has a quality assurance person that ensures all

was "very helpful" for those who attended it, especially because Gulick "went over the form page by page."

"We got so many clarifications," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune*. She said after the USCIS session, they are now more prepared and confident in filing the Form I-129CW for their clients.

Reyes said they and other employers initially thought, for example, that employers are required to submit employees' police clearance, photographs, and copies of diplomas, transcript of records and proof of educational attainment—and these turned out not to be needed.

Dr. Ike Dela Cruz, former secretary of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, said he has yet to petition his foreign workers for a CW because he felt he needed more information on filling up the form.

He has three foreign workers for his business, Ike's House and Land Rental and Construction, Farming and Fishing.

"Maybe I will be back again [today] for the USCIS session, and then I will be ready to file the petitions, just to be sure about the filing," he said.

He said he just learned about the USCIS session yesterday morning, when his wife read the newspaper. Dela Cruz said he will personally file the form, instead of availing of the services of a document handling firm.

Some document handling firms on Saipan charge \$150 to \$200 per employee covered by a CW petition they help file on behalf of employers. Some charge less, while others charge more.

Steve Jang, owner of Rainbow Color and the soon to be launched Gentle Care Home Health Care agency, said he already knows much about the CW petition process but it's always good to "learn more" about it.

"It's always nice to come out, learn more, and listen to other peoples' concerns. What USCIS has been doing is definitely beneficial to employers. It's better to hear information directly from USCIS," he said.

Jang said employers should make it a point to attend the USCIS sessions to be able to file the forms themselves instead of paying others to do it for them.

"The form is pretty much straightforward. If you listen carefully to USCIS, you can fill out the form and submit it yourself," he said.

Maribel Bulong, manager at Saipan Zoo, said she's thankful for USCIS' clarifications on a lot of issues related to the filing of Form I-129CW.

"We're now more prepared and con-

Medicare requirements and standards are being met. Babauta said the corporation takeover has also no impact on the situation with Medicare because this deals with federal requirements and eligibility.

Medicare received a complaint against the hospital's services in January 2010, prompting them to conduct an investigation. The federal agency found serious deficiencies in the hospital's services and threatened to terminate its "provider agreement" if corrective actions are not enforced.

Resurveys are part of Medicare's requirement that validates the content of corrective plans; visits are unannounced. In the 112-page Statement of Deficiencies first issued by Medicare in 2010, it said that CHC's nursing services failed to meet the six

fident about submitting the petitions," she said. "We were able to get clarifications. For example, we learned that police clearance and photos are not really required."

Joy Sanchez, manager at Marianas Medical Center, said they were supposed to file the CW petitions yesterday but decided to hold off on it until they're able to attend the USCIS session.

She said Marianas Medical Center is about to file six petitions for nine beneficiaries, plus two dependents.

Angie Mamaril, accountant at Hardt Eye Clinic, said the USCIS session will help them file this week six petitions for 10 beneficiaries plus one dependent.

Besides the USCIS sessions at the American Memorial Park, Gulick said there will also be "webinars" or public session via web conferencing on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Gulick reminded employers to follow the instructions in filing Form I-129CW, answer the form the best they can, make sure the checks are correct, and file the petitions before Nov. 28, among other things.

He said the USCIS California Service Center will be ready to handle a surge in the number of petitions to be filed close to the deadline.

"Even if we have 10,000 envelopes on Nov. 29 to open up...they [Service Center] would be prepared for it," he said.

At yesterday's session, Gulick reiterated that those whose H1B application has been denied can be petitioned for CW but such petition should be filed immediately.

"That's our best answer at the moment," he added.

At the session, Gulick said employers should respond to request for evidence immediately upon receipt of the notice. If employers fail to promptly comply with the request, they will have to start over again with their petition for that particular beneficiary or petition.

The final rule governing foreign workers in the CNMI, published in the Sept. 7 Federal Register, creates a Commonwealth-only worker (CW) status that will allow foreign workers to remain in the CNMI until the end of the transition period on Dec. 31, 2014.

A foreign worker should already have a CW permit—or their application should already be in process by Nov. 27, 2011, or they could face deportation.

A CW petition is filed by employers on behalf of foreign workers who are not eligible for H1B and other INA visa or classifications.

conditions involving governing body, quality assessment and performance improvement, medical staff, nursing services, radiologic services, and infection control.

Early this year, CHC was also placed on emergency status due to lack of supplies and other immediate needs. During this declaration, \$1.7 million was reprogrammed to pay for the immediate needs of the hospital. Inadequate budget also prevented the hospital from filling important vacancies in key

areas, resulting in noncompliance with certain Medicare requirements.

Among these positions is the director for Medical Affairs, which has been vacant for four years. "This is unacceptable...we need a director for Medical Affairs," Babauta said.

Dr. Dan Lamar was recently appointed to the position in an acting capacity.

Every year, CHC receives from \$8 million to \$10 million in reimbursement from Medicare for various services.

LEAC

From Page 1

ing Group Inc. recommended that the new LEAC rate take effect on Nov. 17, 2011.

In their joint stipulation presented to CPUC chair Viola Alepuyo yesterday, the two asked that the existing LEAC rate of \$0.34426 per kilowatt-hour be lowered to \$0.30791 per kWh.

The proposed new charge is composed of the following elements: fuel and lube oil element (\$0.28761); volatility allowance for uncertainty of fuel price (\$0.01783); and regulatory/technical support (\$0.00247).

According to Georgetown consultant Larry R. Gawlik, the new LEAC rate will reduce utility bills by 10.7 percent, particularly among the vast majority of CUC residential customers who consume an average volume of less than 500 kWh a month. He estimates residential customers in this category to comprise about 70 percent of all CUC customers.

Customers using twice the average kilowatt-hour, meantime, will see a decrease of about 10 percent in their monthly billing. The rest of CUC's customers, including government and commercial businesses, are projected to see an 8.8-percent decrease in their monthly billing.

Prior to yesterday's public hearing,

CUC filed a petition seeking a rate reduction of only 4 percent—from the existing LEAC rate of \$0.34426 per kWh to \$0.33040 per kWh. Georgetown, however, also earlier filed a different rate reduction—from \$0.34426 per kWh to \$0.30370 per kWh—based on a lower projected cost of diesel oil and improvements made in the production efficiencies at CUC power plants.

Saipan Tribune learned that the new 10.7 percent rate cut was finalized yesterday morning after a series of meetings and consultations between CUC and Georgetown.

According to the joint stipulation, the proposed rate represents the required fuel and lube oil-related expenditures estimated for the period from Nov. 1, 2011, to Jan. 31, 2012.

The CPUC, which only has Alepuyo as its sole member, is expected to decide on the proposal at a meeting later this week.

CUC's monthly electric charges are composed of two rates: the base rate, which pays for the day-to-day operations, personnel, and construction of CUC, and the LEAC rate, which pays for the cost of diesel fuel needed to generate electricity. LEAC charges comprise 75 to 80 percent of total monthly bills.

The CPUC last approved a 22-percent increase in the LEAC rate in April this year, following unprecedented increases in world oil prices.

changes in some aspects of the Mass as a way of catechizing the faithful and to get the 'feel' of what it would be like come Nov. 27," said Jimenez.

Jimenez disclosed that the full text of the Mass in Chamorro is now set, thanks to bishop emeritus Tomas Camacho who made the necessary changes in the translation.

The Tagalog translation for the Filipino community, however, is not yet ready. Jimenez said this will come from the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

"So for the 11am Tagalog Sunday Masses at the Cathedral, Sunday 6pm in Kristo Rai, and Saturday 6pm in San Francisco de Borja, we will be using the same Filipino Roman Missal until the new one is ready," he added.

While adjustments need to be made by both parishioners and the clergy, Jimenez noted that these changes are "a sign of growth in Catholic Church."

"Constant updating is always good," said Jimenez. "The new translation is based on the original Latin translation of the Mass and theologians, liturgists linguists, and the bishops worked together in updating the New Roman Missal."

The apostolic administrator encouraged the Catholic faithful to "embrace" these changes and to learn more about them and not just because they are mandated.

"Our attitude should be to have a 'faith that seeks understanding,'" Jimenez concluded.

CATHOLIC

From Page 1

the celebration of Mass.

The last time changes were made to the Roman Missal was in 1975, as originally promulgated by Pope Pius V in 1570. The new alterations, spearheaded by a committee of specialists that worked under a Vatican directive, intend to make the English translation consistently reflect the original Latin text.

Changes are scattered in different parts of the Mass, from the Penitential Act and Nicene Creed to the Apostle's Creed and the Mystery of Faith. In the past, when the priest greets his congregation "The Lord be with you," the Catholic believers will now respond with "and with your spirit" instead of "and also with you."

The CNMI, a predominantly Catholic island community, has been primed for the coming of these changes since April, said Fr. Ryan Jimenez, apostolic administrator for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, who added that they have been working with the Archdiocese of Agana on this matter.

Jimenez, in an email response to *Saipan Tribune*, said that Fr. Ike Ayuyu and Fr. Celso Magbanua serve as coordinators for these efforts, conducting a series of workshops to prepare the clergy and parishioners for the changes.

"We are ready and, in fact, some parishes have already implemented

More rebate/refund checks released on non-payroll weeks

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Taxpayers may have to be a bit patient waiting for their 2010 rebate/refund checks.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the Department of Finance has been releasing close to \$500,000

Manglona resets hearing in lawsuit vs CW rule

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has ordered a new hearing date for the lawsuit that seeks to stop federal officials from enforcing the CNMI-only Transitional Worker final rule on Nov. 28, 2011.

Manglona ordered yesterday that the hearing on the motion for a preliminary injunction scheduled for Nov. 22, 2011, be reset to Nov. 29, 2011.

Manglona set the new schedule at the request of the parties in the lawsuit.

She gave the plaintiffs until yesterday, Nov. 14, to file their legal brief and any exhibits in support of their motion for a preliminary injunction.

The defendants, on the other hand, were given until Nov. 21 to file their legal brief and any exhibits in opposition to the motion. The plaintiffs are given until Nov. 23 to file any reply.

Attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, counsel for plaintiffs, and Theodore W. Atkinson, senior litigation counsel of the Department of Justice Office of Immigration Litigation - District Court Section, submitted yesterday the agreement to modify the

worth of checks every non-payroll week, and smaller batches on payroll weeks.

While the administration has yet to provide information as to the total amount of rebate/refund checks issued since middle of October, Demapan said "the administration will work diligently to

ensure the timely release of such checks."

Some taxpayers have been hoping to receive their rebate/refund checks either before Thanksgiving or before Christmas.

A 54-year-old San Jose resident said the few hundred dol-

lars she expects to receive in refund/refund will go toward household obligations, and not for buying new stuff.

"I hope to receive it before December," she said.

Others were able to receive their checks in mid-October, when the Department of Fi-

nance mailed out some \$1 million worth of rebate, refund, and federal stimulus checks.

After the initial release of the first batch of some 1,000 checks, the following batches have since been issued every two weeks on an increment of close to \$500,000 or less,



Demapan

so taxpayers may just have to wait for their turn to get their checks.

The Fitial administration is looking at the release of a total of 12,000 checks amounting to \$7 million to \$8 million by December, including the ones that were already mailed out starting in October.

A refund is for tax that has been overpaid or incorrectly paid, and is returned to the taxpayer, while rebate is for tax properly paid and is subsequently returned to the taxpayer under a rebate provision.

2 lawmakers on Kosrae for APIL meet

House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogunoro (Cov-Saipan) and House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) are in Kosrae in the Federated States of Micronesia for the 52nd Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' board of directors meeting.

The Nov. 15 to 17 APIL meeting is focused on economic development programs, health and

environmental protection and conservation, youth programs, and other regional issues.

Ogunoro said she will be off-island until Nov. 21, while Deleon Guerrero, until Nov. 19. The two will be missing today's House session.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said he's not aware if any senator went to the APIL meet.

During the last APIL General Assembly in Palau in June this year, the CNMI sent about a dozen lawmakers and Legislative Bureau staffers.

The CNMI will host the 31st APIL General Assembly on Saipan next year. APIL members are American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, FSM, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, and Hawaii. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

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'Mrs. Pai was charged only because she is Mike Pai's wife'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The only reason Joanna C. Pai has been charged with utility theft is because she is married to Public Auditor Michael Pai, who has attracted the ire of Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham, according to former AG Rexford C. Kosack.

"These facts have been well-reported in the press and need not be relied on for Mrs. Pai to prevail in this case, at least at this stage of the proceedings," said Kosack in Mrs. Pai's motion to dismiss the case.

Kosack, counsel for Mrs. Pai, filed yesterday the motion to dismiss and a motion for discovery.

At yesterday's arraignment, Mrs. Pai pleaded not guilty to one count of theft of utility services. She is being accused of



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Former attorney general Rexford C. Kosack confers with Public Auditor Michael Pai and his wife Joanna Pai after Mrs. Pai's arraignment yesterday in the Superior Court. Mrs. Pai pleaded not guilty to a charge that she stole utility services.

stealing utility services amounting to over \$51,000.

Presiding Judge Robert Naraja set a status conference on Nov. 22 at 1:30pm.

In the motion to dismiss, Kosack said this motion will show that Mrs. Pai has not committed the offense under either the facts or the law alleged in the information.

First, Kosack pointed out, the facts alleged do not state an offense. The information, he said, alleges that Mrs. Pai received the benefit of a theft of utility services.

"It does not allege that she committed the theft," Kosack said.

Kosack also noted that the government should be aware of the fact that Mrs. Pai is not a customer as the utility account is in the name of another person.

"While it is alleged that Mrs. Pai received the benefit of a theft of utility services, it does not allege that she committed the theft, and it does not even allege she had any knowledge that the utility services had been stolen," he said.

The lawyer said the information essentially charges Mrs. Pai with nothing more than the alleged innocent receipt of stolen utility services.

According to the information,

on Aug. 30, 2011, on Saipan, Joanna Pai "unlawfully committed the offense of theft of utility services where the theft accrued to her benefit."

The utility services were in

Georgetown lawyer, CUC chief in heated discussion on fees

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Abe Utu Malae and Georgetown Consulting Group Inc. counsel Robert Torres exchanged barbed words yesterday at the Public Utilities Commission meeting during discussions on the regulatory fees being assessed and charged the agency.

Georgetown is a consultant of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission but it is paid by CUC based on fees assessed by the commission. CUC also pays for its own consultant, economists.com.

The discussion's flashpoint was triggered by talks about the abolition of the leveled energy adjustment clause, LEAC, and replacing it with the monthly fuel adjustment clause, or MFAC. The LEAC, which reflects the cost of fuel, is reviewed every six months. MFAC will change

excess of the amount of \$51,000, the charging information states.

Saipan Tribune learned from a source that the alleged theft involved Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power services.

this to every month so it could provide immediate relief to customers in case fuel prices drop.

Malae supports the MFAC proposal, describing the measure as a reflection of "reality" and would be helpful to customers. He also took exception to Georgetown's fees, saying they are too high for a small utility firm like CUC.

Torres emphasized that Georgetown was instrumental in developing the LEAC process, which he claims was not even created by the previous CUC management.

"CUC, under previous management, doesn't even know how to come up with a LEAC rate. Georgetown assisted CUC with this LEAC process. This history is important because this is highly technical part," he said.

Torres said the current LEAC is not a perfect process because it involves several technical issues that require expertise. LEAC, he added, also exists in other jurisdictions and he believes it provides transparency in CUC's operation.

He also defended Georgetown's fees, saying all fees paid by CUC are assessed by the commission and are based on law.

Malae disagreed.

"Rather than assessing over a long period of time of six months, why not do it in a monthly basis to reflect the actual price of our fuel delivery? Sorry, Mr. Torres but I can't take your arguments too seriously because you are the attorney for the consultant. If you go to the Legislature and talk to them how bad the impact is, I am looking at your own motives or your personal interests in this matter. I can't take it [your statements]," said Malae, adding that the regulatory fees are just too high for CUC.

Malae and Torres tried to interrupt each other, finally forcing Alepuyo to order them both to stop.

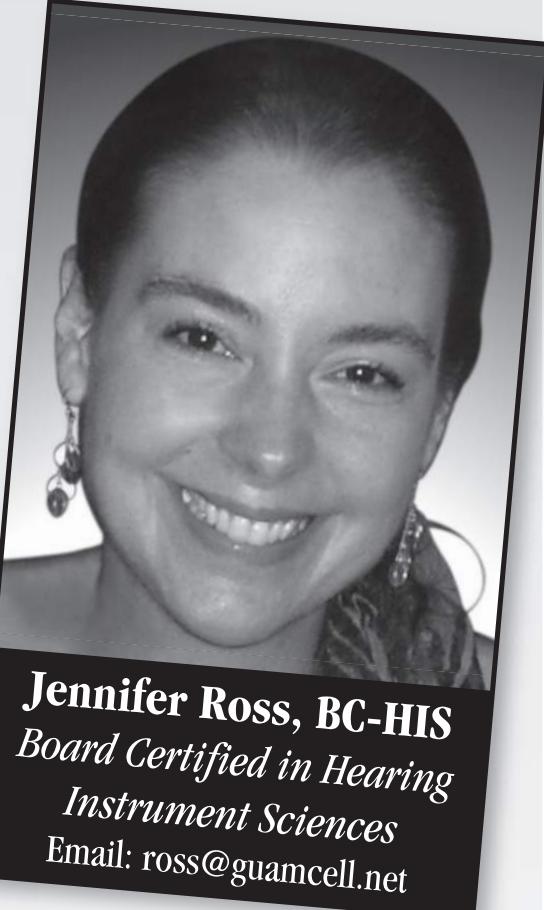
"Hang on, hang on, hang on. Stop! Stop! I am not going to listen to it! It's not going to happen. If anybody knows what's public comments are for, it would be unfair for me to continue this. It's not a process for back-and-forth arguments. You have that opportunity before you brought your stipulation here. Let me assure the members of the public that with regards to regulatory costs, CPUC is very mindful what the costs are from the beginning and we always tried to bring that down," she said, before ordering a recess.

CUC earlier disclosed that Georgetown has billed CUC a total of \$1.2 million in fees and expenses since December 2008.

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- Saturday November 19th 9:00am - 1:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **Garapan**

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Rep. Palacios pleads not guilty

Rep. Raymond D. Palacios entered yesterday a not-guilty plea in the Superior Court to charges that he sold \$200 worth of crystal methamphetamine or "ice."



Palacios

ja set a status conference for Jan. 10, 2012.

Palacios, 48, is out on bail after posting \$3,000 cash and \$27,000 unsecured bond. Police arrested the lawmaker on Oct. 28.

According to police reports, members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force and DPS Criminal

Investigation Bureau used a confidential source to buy a total of \$200 worth of "ice" from Palacios in two transactions that occurred on Oct. 19, 2011. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Veterans town hall meet tomorrow

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Veterans, Reservists, and National Guardsmen on Saipan and their families are encouraged to attend an outreach event that aims to inform them about their health benefits.

The Saipan Veterans Town Hall Meet is slated for Nov. 16, Wednesday, from 5pm to 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center.

Ruth Coleman of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Health Administration for the Pacific Island Health Care System made the announcement during the Veterans Day Ceremony at the American Memorial Park's Court of Honor on Nov. 11.

"The purpose of the meeting

Zoning issues 15 notices of violations

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Zoning Office has issued 15 notices of violation to businesses and households that do not comply with the Public Nuisance and Signs requirement under the zoning law, from the time it started the issuance of notices on Nov. 7.

Of the 15 notices, eight were issued for hanging clothes in public view while seven were issued for other reasons, including obstruction on sidewalks, parking areas and front yards, trash bins placed on a public street, and construction without permits.

Acting Zoning administrator Therese T. Ogumoro said some of the places that were pre-screened or identified for possible notices "had cleaned up prior to the Nov. 7 enforcement date."

Ogumoro said that those who receive the notices are given 24 hours upon receipt to comply with the law.

Public nuisance is defined under the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008 as "an unreasonable interference with a right common to the general public." It "does not change its character by reason of its location on private or public property, occupied or unoccupied property."

Examples of public nuisance are vegetation obstructing the

is you asking questions on how to access your health benefits. The setting is going to be very comfortable so please, if you have time, come," said Coleman, adding that the meeting will be a question-and-answer format.

Coleman said the event is also an opportunity for veterans and their families to get to know more about the Saipan Veterans Affairs Outreach Clinic.

"We haven't done a ribbon cutting yet but it's operational and we're getting it cranking and going," she said. "The state office and the Department of Veterans Affairs are working hand in hand to make sure that our veterans are taken care of."

For more information, visit the clinic at Suite 100 and 206 at the Marina Heights II Building or call 322-0035.

safe passage or sight of motorists or pedestrians at an intersection or any street or sidewalk; abandoned vehicles or appliances in public view; a building or structure in such dilapidated condition that it presents a fire hazard or a menace to the health of the public; and laundry hung outside on a balcony, terrace, porch, deck, or veranda within the view of the public, particularly in the tourism related districts zoned as Garapan Core, Garapan East, and some areas on Middle Road and Beach Road.

"If they don't comply, then we'll enforce up to \$200 of fine per day as written in the [notice that] they signed," Ogumoro told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ogumoro said those who received notices "can ask for an informal compliance meeting with the acting administrator or a formal hearing with the Zoning board to appeal the notice issued by the acting administrator."

She noted, however, that the request for a meeting or hearing "does not stop the notice from being effective."

She said they will follow up on the areas where they issued notices and will visit more areas in the week.

"We urge the public to continue their efforts in cleaning up and promoting the value of our island," added Ogumoro.



7TH YEAR IN A ROW!

The Friends of the Mariana Islands has received another \$2,000 grant from Mobil Oil Mariana Islands Inc. for its Environmental Cleanup Project. Liberty J. Manglona, right, territory manager for Mobil, presents the check to FMI president/chair Marites Aquino Castillo, Lilia P. Narte, and Nieves C. Casta on Nov. 2, 2011, at the Mobil office in Puerto Rico. This is the seventh year for Mobil Oil Marianas to support FMI's projects. This donation will be used for the 2011 FMI Environmental Project, which will begin on Nov. 20, 2011, and will involve cleaning up the road from Isa Drive down to South LauLau Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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MEI's Norita gets national certification

Melanie Norita has become the fifth technician at Marianas Eye Institute to receive her nationally recognized degree as a "certified ophthalmic assistant" or "COA" from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology.

She joins the original technicians at Marianas Eye Institute—Emily Taitano, Lin Muleta and Thelma Tenorio, and Joanne Castro-Pangelinan—as the only certified ophthalmic assistants in the CNMI. The staff of Marianas Eye Institute has collectively received a total of 10 nationally recognized certifications—more than any other eye clinic in the region. In addition to certified ophthalmic assistants, the staff has earned national credentials as certified opticians, certified contact lens fitters, and certified ophthalmic coders.

"The on-the-job training program at Marianas Eye Institute

has allowed these talented individuals to gain the skills and knowledge needed to pass this nationally recognized certification," said Dr. David Khorram.

"They are proof of what hard work and focused effort can accomplish, and we are very proud of Melanie for passing this rigorous exam."

The exam that Norita passed covers 19 knowledge areas, including history taking, equipment maintenance and repair, microbiology, pharmacology, surgical assisting, ophthalmic imaging, patient education, spectacle skills, refractometry, lensometry, visual assessment and medical ethics, legal and regulatory issues.

"When I saw Melanie's scores on each section, I was impressed that in several areas she answered every single ques-

tion correctly, and received a score of 100 percent for those sections," said Khorram. "She knows her stuff."

Norita graduated from Marianas High School and has been employed at Marianas Eye Institute since 1999. "It's hard for me

to believe that when I started at Marianas Eye Institute, I really knew nothing about the eyes. Now, I'm nationally certified. I'm very happy," said Norita.

"When we take our staff to large conferences, they recognize that their experience at Marianas Eye Institute has given them a breadth of knowledge that few technicians, even in the U.S. possess," added Russ Quinn, CEO. "Our clinic is part of one of the most important networks performing groundbreaking research in diabetic

eye disease. So our staff gets very in-depth experience with eye care and diabetes. We've been hailed by *Retinal Physician* magazine as one of the best equipped eye clinics in the Asia-Pacific region, so we know that our staff are getting experience with some of the most advanced technologies in eye care."

"Our doctors, Dr. Khorram and Dr. [Mark] Robertson, have both received national recognition within their fields, and so we know our staff have great teachers," Quinn said. "All of these combine to prepare our staff not only to pass an important exam, but to provide outstanding care to the people we serve every day."

Marianas Eye Institute is located on Beach Road in Garapan across 13 Fishermen Monument. For more information, call 235-9090 or visit www.MarianasEye.com. (PR)



Norita

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Parent Take Over Day at Kagman High

The students, teachers and staff of Kagman High School is inviting the community to attend the first ever PSS-wide Parent Take Over Day on Nov. 17, 2011. Parent Take Over Day is happening all over the nation at schools in celebration of Education Month.

Parents are invited to help teach classes or shadow your child on this day. You may choose to come for the whole day, or only the part of the day. Student leaders and teachers have collaborated on lessons and will help facilitate the classes. Topics that will be taught this day all represent the KHS mission and purpose. Parents may also teach about special talents or skills they have such as weaving, carpentry or music.

Parents who attend this event will be earning points for their child's class of the year title. Each year, all four of the classes vie for the highest honors of class of the year. For more information, call 237-3840 or email kagmanhs@gmail.com. (PR)

Kagman High to issue report cards on Thursday

Kagman High School is issuing all report cards home on Thursday, Nov. 17. It will be a full-day schedule on that day because the school will not be passing out report cards in the afternoon. Instead, students will take their report cards home that night to share their first quarter grades with their parents. Parents are reminded to have their children show them their grades! The school will have its Parent Takeover Day later that same day. For more information, call 237-3840. (PR)

SSHS report cards out on Thursday

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students, term 1 report cards are scheduled to be picked up on Thursday, Nov. 17, from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at the counseling office. All students will be released at 1:05pm. (PR)

Gumataotao assumes command of Carrier Strike Group 11

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Belated happy 18th birthday to our nini girl, Brittany Colleen Santos Sablan, who celebrated her birthday on Nov. 12 and is leaving for U.S. Air Force basic training on Nov. 20. Good luck and safe journey! We love you always!



Happy birthday to my dear "dada" Arnold Avila, who is celebrating his special day today, Nov. 15, 2011! May you have more prosperous and blessed years to come. God bless you and we love you more! Greetings come from Azenith, Aira Celia, Arvin, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday greetings go out to Norberto M. Pua, who is celebrating his special day today, Nov. 15, 2011! May God continue to bless you everyday! We love so much, greetings coming from your loving wife Gayle Pua, beautiful daughters, handsome son, and especially from the families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy 18th birthday to Ray Glenn Skilang Lizama, who celebrated his special day on Nov. 10, 2011! We wish many more special and handsome years to come! Greetings come from the Lizama and Skilang families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 15, 2000

Low retention rate alarms NMC

The Northern Marianas College is devising plans to investigate the steady decline in the college's student retention rate, which is approximately at 27 percent against the 40 to 45 percent average retention rate based on national norms. NMC's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the Counseling Center, and the Office of Admissions, Records and Financial Aid has forged an alliance to probe the reasons behind the dismal student retention figures in efforts to stem tide. According to Ms. Julie Ulloa-Heath, Office of Institutional Effectiveness director, the key departments are set to launch the NMC Retention Program where they will administer satisfaction surveys aimed at stimulating clearer answers as to why a significant percentage of NMC freshmen do not return to the college for their sophomore year.

SESAP seeks BOE help to boost special ed

The Special Education State Advisory Panel has called on members of the State Board of Education to address what panel members called as "atrocious" situation of Northern Marianas' special education that has denied over 270 students with disabilities of unique educational services. SESAP Chair Ted Seaman appealed to BOE members to have more active involvement in uplifting the quality of services offered to special education students and to expedite the selection of advisory panel members that would finally complete SESAP. "We need authorities to pronounce SESAP as a legitimate panel working for the improvement of CNMI's special education," said Mr. Seaman.

Nov. 15, 2001

\$356K earmarked for road projects

The Tenorio administration yesterday approved the reallocation of some \$356,399 for various road paving and road improvement projects on Saipan. This came about after Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio signed into law two bills—House Bill 12-304 and House Local Bill 12-46—authorizing the said reappropriation. Under House Bill 12-304, about \$106,399 that was left over from Public Law 9-24 will be realigned to pave the road from the Saipan International School to the Saipan International Airport. The local bill, meanwhile, reallocates some \$200,000 from the Developer Infrastructure Tax and \$50,000 from the slot machine licensing fees to pave and improve the Sadog Tasi and Chalan Kiya roads.

CNMI urged: Explore other tour markets

Public Relations firm Starr Seigle Communication underscored the need to diversify the CNMI's tourism market in light of Japan's contracting economy. Starr Seigle Senior Vice President Charlotte Vick said that, with the Japan economy still recovering from the Asian crisis, the Northern Marianas should tap the potentials of other emerging markets in the region. Vick listed Hong Kong, Singapore, and Taiwan as possible markets that can help revive the Commonwealth's travel sector. She said Korea and China are doing well.

Nov. 15, 2002

Prioritize sewer line projects, CUC urged

Environmental Protection Agency officials expect the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation to prioritize the construction of sewer lines throughout the CNMI, noting that delays would adversely affect the CNMI's groundwater. "I think, ideally, we'd like to see more people connected to the sewer system. First of all we'd like to see fewer people using septic tanks because it gets back to the groundwater (when not pumped on time). Having connected to the sewer line is going to ultimately protect the precious groundwater," EPA manager for the Pacific John McCaroll said in a media briefing Wednesday. EPA CNMI program manager Pat Young, in the same occasion, said that amid the lack of funding, the CUC should look for alternative sources to prioritize sewer line projects.

NMI gets \$368K in new grants

Gov. Juan N. Babauta on Wednesday accepted three grants from the Department of Justice totaling \$368,000, which are being touted to go a long way in improving the criminal and justice system in the Commonwealth. The three grants consisted of the National Criminal History Improvement Program grant, amounting to \$285,000; the renewal of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title V program grant, \$33,000; and the Statistical Analysis Center grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, \$50,000. Babauta commended Criminal Justice Planning Agency director Doris Pladevega for her work in securing the grants.

Pinktober at Hard Rock Café

PHOTOS BY
CLARISSA V. DAVID



Serenity Salon & Spa owners Ta Bun Kuy and Nenita Ta enjoy the event with staff and friends.



Cancer survivor Maggie Camacho shares her story.



Guests hold their lighted candles symbolizing those who have passed away, survived, and are still battling breast cancer.



LJ Castro hosts the event.



Delta Air Lines ground handling staffers have their photo taken at the event.



Father and daughter tandem Jerry and Jan Kimberly Alcantara perform together in public for the first time.



Host LJ Castro, left, calls out the names of the raffle draw winners.



Guests participate in the silent auction of donated items to augment Pinktober event's fundraising efforts.

Opinion

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Int'l development promotes American jobs and national security

By BOB RABATSKY

MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

With congressional budget negotiators seeking \$1.2 trillion in savings, some Americans question why the United States should be spending money on foreign assistance when we have pressing needs at home. As someone who has dedicated his career to international development, I assure you that cutting foreign assistance would do more harm than good.

When tallying the bottom line, Congress should consider the full price tag: our foreign assistance creates jobs at home by boosting exports and protects our national security by making friends and strengthening economies in emerging societies. Considering how U.S. foreign aid advances America's diplomatic, economic, national security and humanitarian objectives, it also delivers a great return on the tax dollar—for less than 1 percent of the total federal budget.

With job creation becoming more dependent on expanding American exports overseas, international aid efforts are one of our country's most effective ways to promote economic growth. Over 50 percent of U.S. foreign trade is with developing countries that are U.S. foreign assistance partners, and 11 of our top 15 trading partners are graduates of U.S. foreign assistance programs. A recent GAO study on U.S.-funded programs focusing on trade development in emerging markets found that for every one dollar spent on these programs resulted in a \$53 increase in merchandise exports for the United States. Both Republicans and Democrats should be able to support spending that generates these kinds of return!

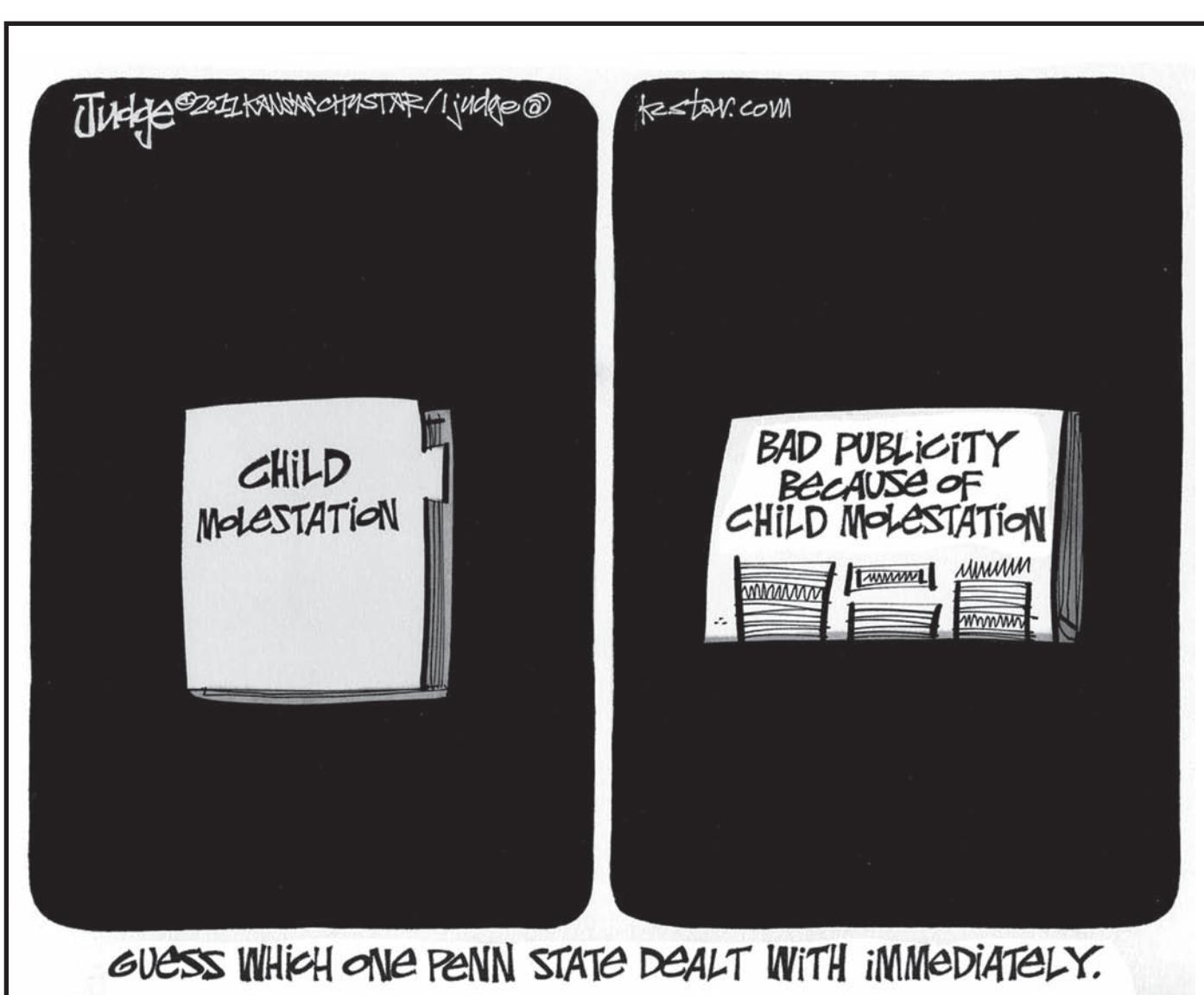
U.S. development programs also win friends for our country in poverty-stricken—and often unstable—societies that are in danger of falling into hostile hands, from rogue regimes to terrorist groups. The link between American money and American lives could not be clearer. As former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates said last year, "Development is a lot cheaper than sending soldiers." The State Department estimates that for every four dollars spent on development and diplomacy in Afghanistan, the Defense Department will save \$45—again, smart spending for us taxpayers.

My company, Fintrac, is contracted by the U.S. Agency for International Development to improve the lives of farmers in developing countries. Our work improves food security, increases income and opportunities for jobs for the rural poor in these countries, and creates a more secure world for both the communities we assist and for us here at home.

For example, Fintrac has been supporting Honduras' agriculture sector for over a decade, dramatically increasing farmers' incomes and improving their families' standard of living. When we began working with the Vasquez brothers, they had four young families working a small plot of land in the middle of the country, subsisting on \$1,000 per year. Under pressure to pay bills and keep their land, the brothers would take great personal risk to migrate into the United States illegally to find seasonal work to supplement their farm income. After receiving assistance from our project, productivity from the farm increased tenfold as they produced vegetables for the local market. The brothers are now using their increased earnings to pay off debt, send their children to school, and invest in expanding their farm. They no longer need to take the risk of traveling to the United States in search of work.

Job creation in developing countries not only creates new markets for our goods and services, it reduces inward migration and

See JOBS on Next Page



Relief from removal: Outside experts, and a very brief overview

Removal is the nice, neutral word currently used instead of the uglier—and more realistic—traditional term “deportation.” With Nov. 28 only two weeks away, the fear of removal is looming larger and larger in many people’s minds. This is especially true after a couple of non-CNMI immigration attorneys, one a recognized immigration expert in California, telephoned in via various media. Many of the things these attorneys are reported to have said are absolutely correct: every alien in the CNMI who may be facing removal has an absolute right to due process. There are a number of defenses to removal and strategies on when and how to use those defenses. Although there will be no mass roundups no matter how many rumors there are to the contrary (and no matter how many misguided statements by misguided local officials), it is certain that there will be a lot of removal cases brought before the Immigration Court, enough to seriously strain the legal resources currently available to the public. And those legal resources are small: few CNMI attorneys handle immigration matters, and fewer still are involved in removal cases.

But some of these experts’ statements betray a lack of familiarity with facts and conditions on the ground here in the CNMI. While CNMI attorneys may not have the same depth of experience in removal proceedings as these outside attorneys, by the same token, neither of these experts has experience with the transition mandated by the Consolidated Natural Resources Act (“CNRA”, aka the “federalization law”) and the way that transition has played out so far, day by day and month by month. Neither expert has spent the past three and a half years meeting with the people most affected by the CNRA, in large groups, as families and as individuals. Neither can be familiar with the former CNMI immigration scheme (and its deportation statute, modeled on U.S. law), and how the CNMI scheme still affects the transition to U.S. immigration law. We understand that the California practitioner expects to visit the CNMI very soon. We hope that he will meet with us; we think the exchange of information and ideas will be mutually beneficial for our clients.

For the rest of today’s column we will very briefly describe some of the most common defenses to removal and the anticipated strains on the local legal system.

Defenses to removal (deportation): A short list

The most common forms of relief from removal are waivers of inadmissibility, excludability and removability, cancellation of re-

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and
BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

oval, suspension of deportation, adjustment of status, asylum and withholding of deportation, legalization and registry, and voluntary departure. Not all are presently available in the CNMI.

Keep in mind that the statutes, regulations, defenses to removal and the resulting case law fill volumes. Today’s column merely scratches the surface, with the broadest possible descriptions.

1. What relief from removal is not available in the CNMI, or is available to very few?

■ **Asylum.** The CNRA specifically prohibits asylum claims from being brought in the CNMI until January 2015. The authors of the CNRA instead mandated that the CNMI government’s nonrefoulement refugee process that existed prior to Nov. 28, 2009, should continue until such time as asylum becomes available to persons in the CNMI. Under the CNMI process, individuals could apply for CNMI-only refugee status using United Nations refugee standards, and several CNMI assistant attorneys general were trained in the process, and as hearing officers. “Nonrefoulement” means that although people claiming to be refugees would not receive any permanent form of immigration status, they would be allowed to remain in the CNMI and would not be returned to their countries of origin.

Unfortunately, and notwithstanding the federal mandate that the program continue, the CNMI quietly terminated the program sometime before the 2009 transition date. Applicants for protection

See RELIEF on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor**Unwelcome surprise**

This is in response to the health corp. stopping housing benefits: It is a shame that as an employee of the hospital and the new corporation, I am learning of the possibility of losing housing benefits via the newspaper. It would be more appropriate, in my opinion, that Mr. Torres share his thoughts directly with the staff that is affected rather than through a media outlet. In addition, most of the staff has never met Mr. Torres, nor know who he is. As a new corporation, we should be getting to know one another and handling our business internally rather than apparently communicating via third parties.

Brian Sullivan, MD

Department of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics
CHC, Saipan

RELIEF

From Page 10

against refoulement, whose cases were not yet adjudicated, were left to an uncertain fate. We recently learned that these files are now with USCIS.

■ **Cancellation of removal.** Cancellation of removal comes in two flavors: for lawful permanent residents, or LPRs, and for non-LPRs. We believe that this form of relief, which was highlighted by the outside experts with whom we started this column, will be of limited utility in CNMI removal cases.

(a) **For LPRs.** An LPR facing removal is eligible for relief from removal if she or she has been an LPR for at least five years, has resided continuously in the U.S. for seven years before removal proceedings are brought, has not been convicted of an aggravated felony, and is not otherwise inadmissible to the U.S. Certain groups are ineligible for this form of relief. There are a number of factors that can favor relief, including family and community ties, hardship, good moral character, and a laundry list of others. Negative factors include bad character, criminal record, immigration violations, and the basis of the government's case.

(b) **For non-LPRs.** Non-LPRs must show physical presence in the U.S. for at least 10 years prior to the removal case, good moral character, etc. We are not going to detail the list, because it is our opinion that very few non-LPRs currently in the CNMI can show 10 years in the U.S. Persons in the CNMI have been "in the U.S." for immigration purposes only since Nov. 28, 2009, with the exceptions set out in Section 506 of the Covenant: U.S. citizens and their immediate relatives, to whom the full INA already applied once the citizenship sections of the Covenant went into effect, on Nov. 4, 1986.

There are individuals in the CNMI—chiefly people who qualified as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens who never became LPRs—who may make a claim to 10 years of continuous residence in the U.S. through the operation of Section 506. We cannot think of any other classes of people to whom this qualification might apply. We did consider the *Sabangan* decision, which held that notwithstanding the citizenship sections of the Covenant, persons born in the CNMI between Jan. 9, 1978, and Nov. 4, 1986, were declared U.S. citizens by operation of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. But *Sabangan* does not directly deal with the immigration laws of the U.S., and we think it is inapplicable to aid a cancellation of removal defense.

Cancellation of removal for non-LPRs requires a showing of "exceptional and extremely unusual hardship"—a very difficult standard to meet—that removal would create for the applicant's U.S. citizen spouse, children, or parents.

Suspension of Deportation. A successful suspension of deportation application results in LPR status for the applicant. Because the initial requirement is continuous physical presence in the U.S. for at least seven years, we think its application will be limited to the same possible class of individuals—in terms of duration of presence in the CNMI—as cancellation of removal. The other requirements are good moral character and a showing of "extreme hardship" to the applicant's U.S. citizen or LPR spouse, children, or parents if the applicant is removed. It is worth noting that cancellation of removal and suspension of deportation can only be granted to 4,000 individuals in any one fiscal year (Oct. 1 to Sept. 30) in the entire United States.

■ **Registry.** Aliens of good character who have resided continuously in the U.S. since before Jan. 1, 1972, who are not otherwise deportable and potentially eligible for citizenship, may be registered as LPRs. We see this as a very limited form of relief because (a) there are very few aliens who have been in the CNMI that long (and

Late checks again

SHEFA and CNMI Scholarship Office are late again and it is very understandable given the financial situation of our government. The late checks means that most students depending on these checks were not able to register and those who did are being charged late fees. Our students are the future professionals of the CNMI and they now need the help and assistance of SHEFA and CNMI Scholarship to register or to prevent them from paying additional "late fees" for registration.

I know Boise State and other colleges are willing to waive the late fees if they get a letter from the scholarship providers explaining it is not the student's fault for the late payment and assuring the institutions that the payment will be made. The SHEFA and CNMI Scholarship offices could do a big service to the students by sending a simple letter to the colleges and universities. The colleges and universities are listed with SHEFA and the CNMI Scholarship offices and it may be possible to send the letter to the school and/or

remember that most Trust Territory citizens present in the CNMI on Nov. 4, 1986, became U.S. citizens, and (b) those aliens who have been here since before Jan. 1, 1972, who remain aliens, cannot claim to have been "in the U.S." for the requisite period of time.

2. So what relief from removal is available?

■ **Adjustment of status.** Other than simple dismissal and termination of a removal case, adjustment of status is the best possible result. There may be many grounds of eligibility for adjustment of status. We have had success with this defense, in that a removal case was recently dismissed against a client of ours, after USCIS (in a normal, non-immigration court interview) approved her husband's I-130 petition for her as his wife. The immigration prosecutor then obtained a dismissal, and our client will soon have a second USCIS interview, to adjudicate her I-485 application to adjust status.

■ **Withholding of deportation (aka withholding of removal).** Withholding of removal is similar to asylum and requires similar grounds (summarized as "a well-founded fear of persecution") but unlike asylum it is not barred by the CNRA, and we are aware of CNMI cases where it has been successfully argued. Withholding of removal is found in the Immigration & Nationality Act under the heading, "Restriction on Removal to a Country Where Alien's Life or Freedom Would be Threatened."

Asylum is preferred over withholding of removal for several reasons: Asylum leads to a grant of LPR status, and withholding of removal does not; a grant of withholding of removal requires a specific order of removal; it only prohibits the government from removing the alien to one particular country. Several groups—generally speaking, past persecutors, serious criminals and security risks—are barred from obtaining withholding of removal.

■ **Waivers of excludability and deportability.** Many grounds of inadmissibility or deportability, which are the bases for removal cases, can be overcome by an appropriate waiver application. We have had successful waiver applications within the context of USCIS applications, and all we will say here is that they are a technical area of law requiring a lot of work from both attorneys and clients.

■ **Voluntary departure.** Voluntary departure is only available to individuals who can show good moral character, are not deportable for "aggravated" reasons, and who agree to pay for their own tickets. This is a last-resort relief, but the removal respondent must determine that it is the only way, early in the process. If you have no defense to removal, and the immigration judge asks whether you will buy your own ticket or you want to government to pay your airfare, you are being given the choice between voluntary departure and removal. The upside? Voluntary departure is *not* removal, and the voluntarily departed are usually not barred from re-entering the U.S., assuming they can show they are admissible upon later application for admission. The downside? The voluntarily departed are *gone*.

Scarce legal resources

The outside experts' message, as reported in the media, is that aliens who may face removal proceedings should fight rather than just go home. That's a decision each affected alien must make for himself or herself, and only after getting good advice about his or her particular case.

Which brings us to another serious problem. As the California expert rightly pointed out, without some kind of funding, a lot of the removal defense work is going to take pro bono work—pro bono publico means "for the public good"—because of the scant economic resources of the people most likely subject to removal proceedings.

As noted above, there are relatively few members of the CNMI Bar Association who handle immigration matters, and fewer handling removal cases. Micronesian Legal Services has been doing

students via email. The letter should be sufficient for most colleges and universities to waive the late charges.

I was going to write a personal letter to the scholarship offices but I'm sure this letter will get more respect, carry more weight and get more attention—no disrespect intended. I just pray the letters will be sent to help our youth and their parents if the checks are not ready. I do want to thank the government for responding so expeditiously when I previously protested and complained publicly about the checks. I just hope some of my former government students can remember their critical lesson on "the power of protest" in U.S. government and took notice because it proved that one person (a voting citizen) can still make a difference even in this part of America. I would protest again but even I must be realistic in knowing our government is now dead broke and a protest can't change that overnight—but it can over time.

Ambrose M. Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

ing commendable work in this area, but the MLSC attorneys are stretched, and cannot ignore the other kinds of cases they are mandated to take. Maya has established an Immigration Section of the CNMI Bar, but the membership of the section is still small. To make matters worse, although the private attorneys in the CNMI Bar are only between 17-18 percent of the entire CNMI Bar membership, they are required to take 100 percent of the Superior Court's appointed cases in criminal and some domestic matters. The burden on private attorneys has been heavy—Bruce once had a criminal case that required nearly 200 hours of his time, just for one example; the Bar and the Courts have spent years working on solutions, but nothing has yet been finalized.

What does that mean? It means that if there is a serious increase in removal cases, it may be hard for people to find legal representation. Respondents in removal cases are entitled to be represented by attorneys of their own choice—and but at their own expense. Because removal cases are not considered "criminal," despite the harshness of the result, there is no constitutional right to appointed counsel.

The bottom line

We don't think there will be any form of roundup, or massive institution of removal cases. Nor will USCIS send notices to appear to everyone who has been denied parole in place (a particularly vicious rumor that is apparently making the rounds). There is no "master list" of people deemed removable on Nov. 28. As a result of the recent "Morton memo," Department of Homeland Security has directed that ICE—Immigration and Customs Enforcement—concentrate on serious criminals and threats to national security first before proceeding to removal cases for ordinary citizens.

That doesn't mean that ordinary, law-abiding but removable individuals won't come to the attention of ICE. A professor Bruce studied under, in the late, lamented Graduate School of Criminology at Berkeley, once likened criminal activity to a radio. The louder it is, the more people hear and pay attention to it. That works for removal, even if removability is not a form of crime. So if you think you might be removable, don't draw attention to yourself. Stay under the radar, and be sure to fix those broken taillights before you go out at night.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

JOBS

From Page 10

competition for jobs here at home. These are two important reasons Congress and taxpayers should maintain a modest foreign aid budget.

America is safer and more prosperous because of the investment we make in helping people less fortunate than ourselves. We are not just helping a farm family in Honduras, we are building allies and trading partners that will help protect and grow our future. Foreign assistance funding in the federal budget is low, but the stakes are high, from our job security to our national security.

Bob Rabatsky is senior vice president of Fintrac Inc., an international development company.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 87° ▾ 76°

▲ 87° ▾ 76°

▲ 87° ▾ 76°

▲ 87° ▾ 76°

▲ 87° ▾ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▾ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▾ 74
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▾ 76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 75
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 74
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 74
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85 ▾ 79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 64 ▾ 61
Beijing	Showers	▲ 52 ▾ 36
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 80 ▾ 73
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 85 ▾ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 56 ▾ 43
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▾ 50
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▾ 77
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 69 ▾ 54
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▾ 72
New York	Showers	▲ 63 ▾ 53
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 60 ▾ 48
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55 ▾ 39
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▾ 49
Rome	Sunny	▲ 66 ▾ 42
Salem	Showers	▲ 47 ▾ 41
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▾ 50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 56 ▾ 38
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 58 ▾ 47
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 67 ▾ 57

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Saipan Harbor	Today	6:18 AM	5:44 PM	Today	9:20 PM	9:42 AM
4:06 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	Wednesday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM
11:23 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	Wednesday	10:14 PM	10:29 AM
4:51 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet	Thursday	11:08 PM	11:15 AM
9:14 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet	Friday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
				Saturday	6:20 AM	5:44 PM
					Saturday	12:03 AM
						12:42 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SAR

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 11, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP

5K384 7:20am 8:10am 2, 6

C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily

C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 3, 4, 7

C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6

C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1

OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN

OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

C05070/191 4:35am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM

DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT

C05068/183 8:25am 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05068/183 8:25am 9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:40pm 1, 4, 7 via GUM

C05076/193 3:10pm 11:00pm 2, 5 via GUM

PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM

PR110/C05071 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM

C0184/5071 10:55pm 7:25am+1 3, 6 via GUM

C0184/5071 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

C0184/5071 11:59pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM

PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:50am 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721 2:10am

Business

Leaders: Asia-Pacific free trade vital to recovery

KAPOLEI, Hawaii (AP)—Opening markets to free trade is crucial to a lasting global economic recovery, Asia-Pacific leaders agreed Sunday as they wrapped up a summit that produced tangible progress toward a U.S.-backed regional trade bloc.

The plan to forge a Pacific free trade area got a big boost when leaders of Canada and Mexico joined Japan in expressing support for a deal that has received a cool reception from rising power China.

The news was a coup for President Barack Obama, who made progress on the pact one of his top priorities for the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, held in his home state of Hawaii. It comes after Japan, the world's No. 3 economy, said Friday it wants to join the nine nations already involved in talks on what has been dubbed the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

In their summit declaration, leaders of the 21-member APEC said the region is now the vanguard for global growth thanks to previous progress in forging closer economic ties and free trade.

The meeting at a time of uncertainty for the world economy has strengthened the group's commitment to cooperation, the statement said. Leaders also agreed on measures to promote green-based economic growth to ensure energy security.

"We continued our efforts to try to get the global economy to grow faster, the strong and balanced growth that we need," Obama said in a closing speech.



**APEC
USA 2011**

The latest developments in Europe. The International Monetary Fund will play a key role in coming months in overseeing efforts by Italy, and other ailing economies that use the euro common currency, to rein in debt.

Europe's quandary was among the wide range of issues that the leaders tackled in their one-day meeting.

Some might wonder why Pacific Rim leaders would be discussing troubles on the other side of the globe, Obama said, answering that "If Europe has a major recession, that will have a direct impact on our growth and ability to create jobs."

The U.S. Trade Representative, Ron Kirk, welcomed the overtures from Canada and Mexico about joining the so-called TPP, issuing a statement calling them America's "neighbors and largest export markets."

But China, which some economists say is on course to overtake the U.S. as the world's biggest economy this decade, has appeared reluctant to endorse

reported effects from Europe's turmoil. Worries that Europe's crisis could worsen and spread are spooking investors and consumers just as the holiday shopping season nears. Some fear U.S. consumers could rein in spending. Europe's sputtering growth is already dragging on some U.S. companies' profits and could further slow the U.S. economy.

Kurdish government, ExxonMobil ink oil search deal

SULAIMANIYAH, Iraq (AP)—The Kurdish regional government has signed a deal with ExxonMobil to explore oil fields in northern Iraq, Kurdish officials said Sunday, putting them in sharp conflict with Iraq's national government. The government in Baghdad wants to control all energy contracts signed in Iraq. With the deal, ExxonMobil becomes the first oil major to do business in the Kurdish region in defiance of the central government's wishes.

They are Shanghai (PVG), Beijing (PEK), Hangzhou (GHG), and Dalian (DCL), during the peak Chinese New Year season, from January to early February 2012. Flights will be operated by the airline's Boeing 737-800 aircraft, which features

the Pacific trade pact, likely wary of being drawn into what has become a U.S.-led initiative that encroaches on its own sphere of influence in Asia. China also has commitments to rival free trade blocs in East and Southeast Asia.

The TPP group now includes only four smaller, relatively affluent economies—Chile, New Zealand, Brunei and Singapore—but the U.S., Australia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Peru are negotiating to join.

U.S. officials have said all are welcome to come on board, while indicating that the agreement's high standards would pose a challenge to countries whose economies are not fully

open. That would likely include Russia, which is close to gaining long-sought membership of the World Trade Organization, and China, which has staked out large sections of its economy for protection from foreign competition.

Obama has said he is optimistic that work on the American-backed trade pact could result in a legal framework by next year.

For the U.S., the initiative is seen as a way to break through bottlenecks and open new business opportunities. Many in APEC see the emerging deal as a building block for a free trade area that eventually encompasses all of Asia and the Pacific—covering half the world's commerce

and two-fifths of its trade.

"The Asia Pacific region is absolutely critical to America's economic growth. We consider it a top priority. And we consider it a top priority because we're not going to be able to put our folks back to work and grow our economy and expand opportunity unless the Asia Pacific region is also successful," Obama told fellow leaders earlier Sunday.

Thomas Donohue, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, an influential business lobbying group, praised the Pacific trade initiative.

"An important step to unlocking global economic growth will be expanding trade

in the Asia-Pacific, and the TPP holds this key," Donohue said. He urged the group to move quickly in drawing up a timeline that is "comprehensive, enforceable, and makes room for new entrants."

One of the highlights of the closed-door APEC talks is usually a "family photo," a ritual that has sometimes involved decking the often staid leaders in colorful shirts or other local fashions.

Despite speculation the leaders might don tropical-themed "Aloha" shirts or perhaps leis this time, they posed in their usual business attire—a reflection, perhaps, of the seriousness of their agenda.

"We're here for business. We're here to create jobs. We're here to promote exports, and we've got a tangible set of steps that have been taken," Obama said. "That's what responsible leadership is all about."

APEC joins economies, both huge and tiny, rich and poor. As always, the divergence between rich and developing economies—and between the U.S. and China—was apparent.

In Hawaii, Obama was also pushing hard on trade issues with China.

Before a meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao on Saturday, Obama exhorted Beijing to "play by the rules," citing controls that keep China's currency undervalued as one example.



AP
U.S. President Barack Obama, right, and Peruvian President Ollanta Humala walk away group photo during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Kapolei, Hawaii on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011.

Japan's economy rises out of earthquake slump

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's economy surged 6 percent in the latest quarter in a bounce back from the earthquake and tsunami disaster that is unlikely to be sustained amid headwinds from Europe's debt crisis.

The Cabinet Office's real gross domestic product report Monday marks the first expansion for the world's No. 3 economy in four quarters. The result was in line with market forecasts, including Kyodo News agency's projection of 6.2 percent annualized growth for the

July-September quarter.

The March 11 earthquake and tsunami killed thousands of people and wiped out large swathes of Japan's northeastern coast. The disasters damaged many factories in the region, causing severe shortages of parts and components for manufacturers across the country, including automakers.

The tsunami also crippled a nuclear power plant, adding to the difficulties faced by businesses and households.

Since then, the country has

steadily restored its factories, helping the economy rebound despite the threats of a financial crisis in Europe, slowing global economy and a strong yen.

The Cabinet Office said the annualized figure translates to GDP growth of 1.5 percent from the previous quarter. GDP is a measure of the value of all goods and services produced domestically.

Consumer spending, which accounts for some 60 percent of the economy, climbed 1 percent from the previous quarter. Capital investment by companies

rose 1.1 percent.

Analysts, however, say that the strong third quarter numbers are unlikely to last.

Credit Suisse economist Hiromichi Shirakawa said Japan had benefited from a sharp increase in exports and industrial production into the early summer. But the economy has "already lost upward momentum since August," he said in a report last week.

He expects Japan's economy to weaken in coming months and forecasts GDP to contract in the fourth quarter.

United operates charter flights from four Chinese cities to Guam

» Offering 10 roundtrip flights from China during Chinese New Year season in 2010

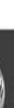
GUAM—United Airlines, a wholly owned subsidiary of United Continental Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: UAL) announced that it will operate 10 roundtrip charter flights from mainland

China to Guam since 2008," said Barry Bergmann, United's managing director for Micronesia and Southeast Asia. "China is one of the world's fastest-growing markets for leisure travel and United States to promote Guam as a beautiful

and attractive beach destination to Chinese travelers. With support from our local travel agency partners and United's sales team in China, the charter flights truly demonstrate our continued strong commitment to the Guam market."

The planned charter flight schedules are as follows:

United Airlines



20 January- 24 January, 2012
24 January- 28 January, 2012
28 January- 2 February, 2012

Hangzhou-Guam-Hangzhou
21 January- 25 January, 2012
25 January- 29 January, 2012

Beijing- Guam-Beijing
18 January- 23 January, 2012
23 January- 28 January, 2012
28 January- 2 February, 2012

Shanghai-Guam-Shanghai
16 January- 20 January, 2012

Dalian- Guam- Dalian
23 January- 27 January, 2012

Nation

Obama: Iran sanctions have 'enormous bite'

KAPOLEI, Hawaii (AP)—Defending his efforts to contain Iran's nuclear ambitions, President Barack Obama said Sunday that economic sanctions against Tehran have had "enormous bite," and that he will consult

with other nations on additional steps to ensure that Iran does not acquire an atomic weapon.

Obama expressed confidence that Russia and China in particular understand the threat a nuclear armed Iran would pose,

and said their leaders agree that Iran cannot weaponize its nuclear power and trigger a nuclear arms race in the region.

The president, at a news conference that closed an Asia-Pacific economic summit, did not specifically say he would consider military action if Tehran were to persist in arming itself with a nuclear weapon. But he added: "We are not taking any options off the table. Iran with nuclear weapons would pose a threat not only to the region but also to the United States."

The sun setting behind him in Hawaii, Obama fielded questions across the domestic and foreign front. He prodded China on its economic policy, pledged to keep fighting Republicans over his largely stalled jobs bill, reflected on the hurt of the Penn State sex abuse scandal and challenged a key congressional debt panel without dropping any veto threats.

For the president, the news conference was his first opportunity to address a report Friday from the International Atomic Energy Agency that provided new evidence that Iran's nuclear program includes clandestine efforts to build a bomb. The report, circulated among the U.N. watchdog agency's member countries, alleges Iran has been working to acquire equipment and weapons design information, testing high explosives and detonators and developing compute models of a warhead's core. Taken together, it's the

most unequivocal evidence yet that the Iranian program ranges far beyond enriching uranium for use in energy and medical research, which is what Tehran says it's for.

In meetings Saturday with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Chinese President Hu Jintao, Obama sought to rally support for putting new pressure on Iran's regime. But there was little public sign either country was ready to drop its opposition to additional sanctions. The U.S.

has already slapped sanctions on dozens of Iranian government agencies, financial and shipping companies as well as officials over the nuclear program and could target additional institutions like Iran's Central Bank. And the U.N. has imposed four rounds of sanctions that have caused economic hardship in Iran, but have yet to force any change in the nuclear program.

"The sanctions have enormous bite and enormous scope," Obama said.

Obama declined to directly respond to criticism of his Iran policy from Republican presidential candidates Saturday, including former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's declaration that Obama's re-election would mean a nuclear armed Iran. But he took a swipe at his foes anyway.

"Now is this an easy issue?" he asked. "No, anyone who claims it is, is either politicking or doesn't know what they're talking about."

Utah man receives war medals 66 years late

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—More than six decades after being freed from a Japanese prisoner of war camp, a Utah veteran was compelled to relive the horrors and triumphs of his World War II experience this month when he received a mysterious package containing seven military medals, including the Distinguished Service Cross and Silver Star.

The medals have become a source of pride for retired Army Capt. Tom Harrison, 93, since they arrived in a box with nothing more than a packing slip from a logistics center in Philadelphia on Nov. 4, which happened to be his 65th wedding

anniversary. But they have also refreshed painful memories of the Bataan Death March, POW camps and the comrades he lost during the war or in the years since. Harrison can talk at length about his time as a soldier in the Philippines. But he talks about it much like he talks about golf, focusing on small details—be it the flight of a well-hit tee shot or the day he met Gen. Douglass MacArthur—and the people that surrounded him. He doesn't dwell on his own valor.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor forced the United States into the war, Harrison spent months fighting the Japanese



AP
U.S. President Barack Obama answers questions during a press conference at the conclusion of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in Kapolei, Hawaii on Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011.

For Penn St., a new week after the worst one ever

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP)—For Penn State University, there was the past week—a week of unimaginable turmoil and sorrow, anger and disbelief and shame. And then there is tomorrow.

As Penn State leaves a harrowing week behind and takes tentative steps toward a new normal, students and alumni alike wonder what exactly that means. What comes next for a proud institution brought low by allegations that powerful men knew they had a predator in their midst and failed to take action? What should members of its community do now?

"Our best," said Julie Weiss, 19, a sophomore from Wayne, N.J., pausing outside her dorm to consider the question.

Last week, the worst in its 156-year history, the place called Happy Valley became noticeably less so. Students and alumni felt betrayed as child sex abuse allegations exploded onto the nation's front pages, bringing notoriety to a place largely untouched by, and unaccustomed to, scandal.

As the school's trustees pledge to get to the bottom of the saga, many Penn Staters are

feeling sadness, anger, a sense of loss. Some can't sleep. Others walk around with knots in their stomachs or can't stop thinking about the victims. Wherever two or more people congregate, the subject inevitably comes up. Even Saturday's pregame tailgate parties were muted with the subject that hung low over everything.

"Everyone's been struggling to reconcile how something so bad could happen in a place that we all think is so good," said senior Gina Mattei, 21, of Glen Mills, Pa., hours after Penn State played its first game since 1965 without Joe Paterno on the sidelines as head coach. "It's sad to think that something like that could happen HERE, in a place where everyone is really comfortable and has a lot of community spirit."

Some students argue that the question itself—"How does Penn State regain what it's lost?"—is flawed. This remains a world-renowned research institution, they point out. It's still the place where students hold THON, a yearly dance marathon that raises millions of dollars for pediatric cancer research. It's far more than football and far bigger than Sandusky, Spanier, even Paterno.



AP
In this Nov. 10, 2011 photo, Tom Harrison, 93, displays his World War II medals at his home in Salt Lake City.

ACROSS THE NATION

Obama calls waterboarding 'torture'

KAPOLEI, Hawaii (AP)—President Barack Obama says the interrogation technique known as waterboarding constitutes torturing, disputing Republican presidential candidates who say they would reinstate the practice. Obama called waterboarding "torture" and said it was "contrary to America's traditions" during a news conference at the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit. Republicans Herman Cain and

Michele Bachmann said during a Republican debate on Saturday that they would reinstate the technique that former President George W. Bush authorized and Obama banned.

Police move in on Portland park, protesters remain

PORLTAND, Ore. (AP)—In a tense escalation of the Occupy Portland protest, police in riot gear Sunday surrounded demonstrators in a downtown park area after hundreds of people

defied the mayor's order to leave the park by midnight. By early afternoon, officers had mostly surrounded the camp where the protesters were holding a "general assembly" meeting to discuss their next moves following the eviction order. Some officers used nightsticks to push people away from the encampment and used loudspeakers to warn that anyone who resisted risked arrest and "may also be subject to chemical agents and impact weapons." Demonstrators chanted "we are a peaceful protest."

Asia

Thailand flooding damages its ancient capital

AYUTTHAYA, Thailand (AP)—Water fowl, monitor lizards and stray dogs have replaced the throngs of tourists at one of Thailand's greatest historical sites. Record flooding has turned Ayutthaya's ancient temples into islands, and a giant statue of the reclining Buddha appears to float miraculously on the lapping water.

Experts fear that at least half of the more than 200 waterlogged monasteries, fortresses and other monuments in the one-time royal capital have been damaged.

"Imagine a thousand tons of brick and stone resting on soft foundations, with no modern-style pilings. We are very worried," said Chaiyanand Busayarat, director of the Ayutthaya Historic Park.

And as floodwaters recede, some experts are proposing a radical change to prevent similar disasters in the future: Turn back the clock about four centuries to emulate the city's urban planners and engineers of that time.

"We can't prevent flooding so we have to learn to live with wa-

ter again, like those who created Ayutthaya. Let's take out the old city maps," said Anek Sihamat, deputy director-general of the Thai government's Fine Arts Department.

He recommended digging up old canals that have been paved over for roads and curbing the urban sprawl and industrial parks that block the natural runoff of water.

Capital of a powerful state for 417 years, seat of 33 kings, Ayutthaya has been described as one of the greatest cities on water ever, with a canal network that measured more than 85 miles (140 kilometers). Built on the flood plain of central Thailand at the confluence of three rivers, it was inundated annually, but its citizens lived in stilt-raised houses and used boats for transport.

Water also defended Ayutthaya, which once held as many as 1 million residents, until a brutal sacking by the Burmese in 1767 forced relocation of the capital to Bangkok, 50 miles (80 kilometers) to the south—where the same floodwaters that inundated

Ayutthaya are now nearing the inner city.

The surge of water from the northern highlands, which began in late July and has killed more than 520 people, is the worst since the 1940s, although Ayutthaya experiences flooding almost every monsoon season.

In coming weeks, experts will assess damage and determine what will be needed to revive and protect the city, which was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1991. Advisers from Venice and the Netherlands, two places that have grappled with the challenges of watery environments, are prepared to come, while several countries, including Germany and Japan, have provided or promised funds. Anek, the Fine Arts official, estimated that some \$20 million will be needed.

"Clearly what we hope for from this experience will be a more solid, more thorough flood mitigation plan," said Tim Curtis, head of the culture unit at UNESCO's regional office in Bangkok.

He said that Amsterdam's

19th-century water-based defense line—another World Heritage site—and Venice may be used as models.

Witthaya Pewpong, the Ayutthaya provincial governor, said a dam has been proposed to shield the historic area while flooding would be eased by setting aside a large, construction-free area of the nearby countryside to absorb excess water.

Nevertheless, authorities "know that they will have to learn to live with water because

it will always be there," said UNESCO cultural expert Montira Horayangura Unakul. As such, urban planning should be consistent with Ayutthaya's design as a city of water, she said.

To date, Ayutthaya has not scored well on the urban management front. The city of 82,000 people is mushrooming helter-skelter and has bid to host World Expo 2020. Four years ago, amid concern in Thailand that UNESCO might take the city off its list, one Bangkok

newspaper wrote that the city was destroyed twice, "first by invading Burmese, and now by greedy and insensitive Thais."

Adding to its watery woes, said Curtis, are problems common to heritage sites: the looting of artifacts, inadequate waste disposal, corrosive vehicle fumes, ugly and inappropriate new construction and mass tourism.

There's also a running battle between heritage and municipal authorities, often allied with business interests.



AP

In this photo taken Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2011, Phra Ram temple stands amidst floodwaters in Ayutthaya province, central Thailand.

Kidnapped US boy's relative escapes in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Filipino relative of a kidnapped American boy escaped Sunday from al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants, who have held them for four months in a southern Philippine jungle, the army said.

Romnick Jakaria dashed to freedom when special Filipino army forces managed to get near an Abu Sayyaf lair near mountainous Sumisip town in Basilan province and alarmed the militants, army Col. Ramon Yogyog said.

The 19-year-old Jakaria went to an army outpost and was undergoing questioning, he said.

Jakaria and his Filipino-American aunt, Gerfa Yeatts Lunsmann, and her 14-year-

old American son were kidnapped July 12 while they were vacationing with relatives on an island near southern Zamboanga city.

Abu Sayyaf militants last month freed Lunsmann, whose son remains in captivity.

Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo has said that the kidnappers had talked with Lunsmann's family in the United States and at one time allowed her to talk on the phone as proof that she was alive.

The U.S. and Philippine governments did not pay any ransom for her release, Robredo said, but added he was unaware if any private group paid for her freedom.

Ransom kidnappings have

long been a problem in the impoverished region and are blamed mostly on the Abu Sayyaf, a group also notorious for beheadings and bombings, and its allied outlaws.

The Abu Sayyaf was founded on Basilan in the early 1990s as an offshoot of a violent Muslim insurgency that has been raging for decades. U.S.-backed offensives have weakened the group, which is blacklisted by Washington as a terrorist organization, but it remains a key security threat.

The Abu Sayyaf, which is estimated to have about 380 fighters, still holds an Indian, a Malaysian and a Japanese convert to Islam, along with a number of Filipino hostages.

hicles were traveling to the city of Karachi from Thatta, 80 miles (130 kilometers) to the east, when the accident happened Sunday. More than a dozen people were injured. Ahmed is the health minister in Sindh province, where Karachi is the capital. Saeed Javed witnessed the accident and said it was so violent that body parts were scattered near the road.

Indonesians killed some 750 orangutans in a year

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A new survey says villagers on the Indonesian side of Borneo killed at least 750 endangered orangutans over a yearlong period, some to protect their crops and others for the apes' meat. Erik Meijaard, main author of the report that appeared in the journal PLoS One, says he believes the killings pose a more serious threat to the apes' survival than previously thought. Indonesia is home to 90 percent of the 50,000 to 60,000 orangutans left in the wild. But as forests are being cleared to make way for pulp, paper and palm oil plantations, the apes are coming into conflict with humans.

Traffic accident kills 21 people in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—A government health official says 21 people have been killed in a collision between a bus and a passenger van in southern Pakistan. Sagheer Ahmed says the ve-

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—A government-appointed human rights body on Sunday urged Myanmar's president to release political prisoners or transfer them to prisons close to their families, signaling such action may be imminent.

Speculation is considerable that a new amnesty covering some of an estimated 2,000 political prisoners will be issued this week, perhaps as early as Monday.

A comprehensive release of political detainees would boost Myanmar's already active diplomatic efforts to improve relations with the United States, which shunned the previous military regime because of its poor human rights record and failure to allow free and democratic politics.

Myanmar's three state-owned newspapers published an open letter Sunday from National Human Rights Commission chairman Win Mra calling on President Thein Sein to grant amnesty "as a reflection of magnanimity," or to transfer political prisoners in remote prisons to facilities with easy access for their family members.

The letter's publication is significant because the tightly controlled newspapers closely reflect government positions. An amnesty of 6,359 prisoners

in October happened the same day state-run newspapers published a similar appeal.

A prisoner release in the next few days is also anticipated because a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, begins Thursday

in Bali, Indonesia. Myanmar is seeking to chair ASEAN in 2014, and the release of political prisoners would be seen as a positive development favoring its bid, which is likely to be decided at this week's summit. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will also be there to meet regional leaders.

"It appears there are real changes taking place on the ground, and we support these early efforts at reform," Clinton told reporters Friday on the sidelines of an annual Pacific Rim summit.

"We want to see the people of Burma able to participate fully in the political life of their own country." The military changed the country's name to Myanmar in 1989, but supporters of the country's pro-democracy movement prefer to use the old name.

Myanmar's nominally civilian government, which took power in March, has declared its intention to liberalize the hard-line policies of the junta that preceded it. It has taken

some fledgling steps, such as easing censorship, legalizing labor unions, suspending an unpopular, China-backed dam project and beginning talks with Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi and her pro-democracy movement.

In his open letter, Win Mra requested that the president grant amnesty "to those prisoners convicted for breach of existing laws, who do not pose a threat to the stability of the state and public tranquility."

The appeal clearly referred to political prisoners, although the term was not used. The government asserts that it holds no political prisoners, only people convicted under criminal law.

"If for reasons of maintaining peace and stability, certain prisoners cannot as yet be included in the amnesty, the commission would like to respectfully submit that consideration be made for transferring them to prisons with easy access for their family members," the letter said.

In recent years, political detainees who in the past would have been held at Insein Prison in the main city of Yangon have instead been sent to jails in remote parts of the country in an apparent effort to make it difficult for them to communicate with the outside.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines rejects new Chinese territorial claim

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An official says the Philippines has dismissed a Chinese claim to territory less than 50 miles (80 kilometers) from a Philippine province in the latest dispute in the increasingly tense South China Sea. Philippine Energy Undersecretary Jose Layug Jr. says China protested in July over a Philippine invitation to foreign investors to hunt for oil in the area, claiming it belonged to Beijing. It is the closest point in waters off the main Philippine islands that China has claimed. Layug said Monday the Philippines quickly rejected the Chinese protest. It will likely bolster Philippine resolve to seek a U.N. ruling on the long-simmering territorial disputes.

Traffic accident kills 21 people in Pakistan

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—A government health official says 21 people have been killed in a collision between a bus and a passenger van in southern Pakistan. Sagheer Ahmed says the ve-

World

‘Super Mario’ tapped to cure Italy’s economic ills

MILAN (AP)—The man tapped to be Italy’s next premier earned the moniker “Super Mario” in the halls of the European Commission, stopping such corporate giants as Jack Welch and Bill Gates in their competitive tracks.

Elegantly attired with a formal demeanor, Mario Monti proved his mettle as a tough negotiator when he blocked the merger of General Electric and Honeywell and levied a euro500 million fine against Microsoft for abusing its dominant position.

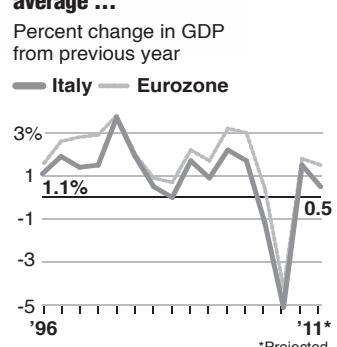
“He moves with caution and speaks with nuances. But he

Italy’s debt crisis

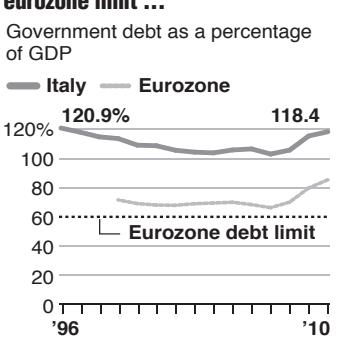
Analysts say a major cause of the current crisis in the EU’s fourth-largest economy is Italy’s low growth rate, a rate lower than the interest rate it pays on its debts.



Italy’s growth rate has been lower than the eurozone average ...



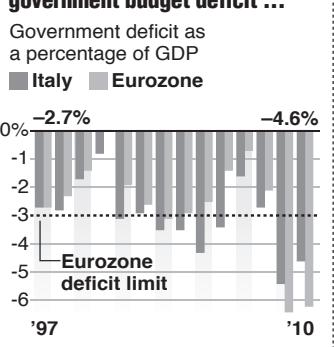
... and while its government debt has consistently been above the eurozone limit ...



... relatively high inflation – until the Great Recession – provided tax revenues ...



... but a drop in revenues has contributed to an increase in the government budget deficit ...



... leading to EU demands that the country cut its debt; worried investors have driven bond prices down and yields up, increasing the cost of government debt

Yields on 10-year government bonds, Nov. 10

	Italy	Eurozone
Italy	6.91%	
Eurozone	1.78	
U.K.	2.07	
U.S.	2.07	

© 2011 MCT
Source: Eurostat, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, BBC
Graphic: Pat Carr

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

†Elizabeth Castro Deleon Guerrero

Lovingly known as “Nan Beck Kumoi”

Born to life on December 14, 1935

Called to her eternal rest by our
Heavenly Father on November 08, 2011

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Husband: Francisco Santos Deleon Guerrero

Children & Spouses: Josephine and Victor Mesta (Dion & Carina, Christine, Dominic), Antonio and Annie Deleon Guerrero, Barbara and Ben Sablan (Nikkie, JR and Megan, Liam), Joaquina & Ramon Chong (Christopher & Ashley (Ireana & RJ, Francisco (Christopher), Dennis Cruz, Rayna, Rakina), Therese DLGuerrero & Ricardo Cabrera (Terrika, Craig, Caitlin), Ramon DLGuerrero (John Franklin)

Sister: Maria C. Porter,

Sister In-Laws: Dolores B. Castro, Rosa O. Castro, Rita B. Castro

Brothers & Sisters In-Laws: Isabel DLG. Campos & Jesus Campos, Angie DLG. Balecha & Flor Balecha, Cathy DLG. Quinata & Jess Quinata, Ramon S. Deleon Guerrero & Ramona Villagomez

In her new life, she now joins her:

Parents: Jose Villagomez Castro and Rosa Manibusan Castro

Parents In-Law: Jesus D. Deleon Guerrero & Josepha S. Deleon Guerrero

Brothers & Sisters In-Laws: Manuel M. Castro & Maria J. Castro

Nicolas M. Castro & Lorenzo Roberts, Marceliano M. Castro, Francisico M. Castro, Lee B. Porter, Augustine M. Castro, Rosario O. Camacho

Brother In-Law: Vicente S. Deleon Guerrero & Dolores T. Deleon Guerrero

Son In-Law: Dennis W. Cruz

She is also survived by numerous Aunties, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins and Godchildren.

Daily Mass of intention will be at 6:00pm and nightly holy rosary will follow at Santa Soledad Parish Church in Kagman.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011.

Her remains will be escorted from Commonwealth Health Center Chapel at 7:00 am to Santa Soledad Parish Church in Kagman. Reponso Service will take place at 8:00 am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:30 am.

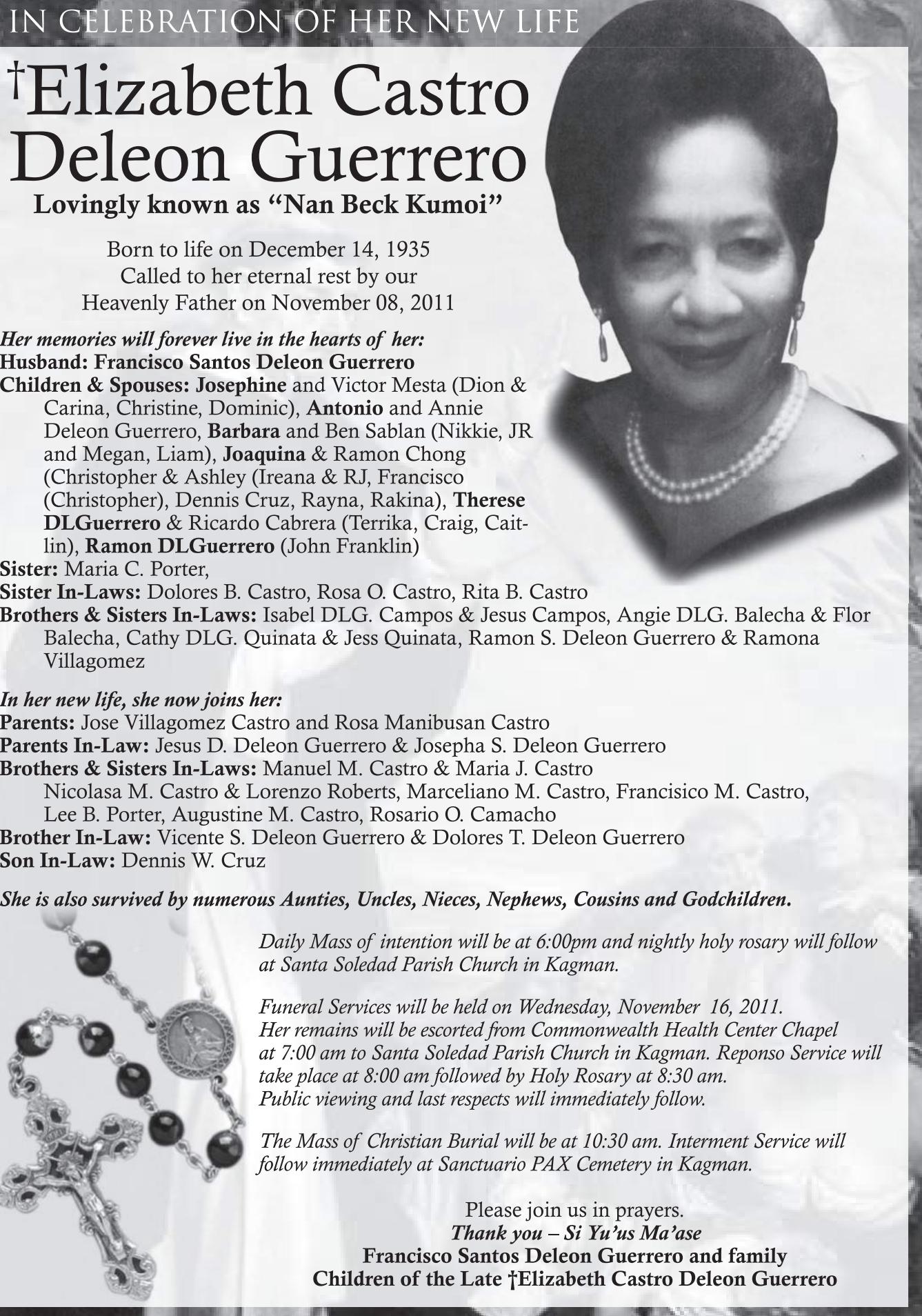
Public viewing and last respects will immediately follow.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 am. Interment Service will follow immediately at Sanctuario PAX Cemetery in Kagman.

Please join us in prayers.

Thank you – Si Yu’us Ma’ase

Francisco Santos Deleon Guerrero and family
Children of the Late †Elizabeth Castro Deleon Guerrero



moves,” said Carlo Guarneri, a political scientist at the University of Bologna.

A leading economist, Monti is among the most respected men in the country and the most admired Italians in Europe.

That will be no guarantee for success in the Herculean task before him: building a majority large enough to push painful structural reforms through a fractured Parliament to prevent Italy from being dragged into the burgeoning debt crisis.

But he has some clear assets: he is part of the Italian financial establishment, has strong ties to European institutions and governments and enjoys the clear support of President Giorgio Napolitano, who gave Monti a mandate Sunday to

WORLD BRIEFS

10 militants killed in Yemen; UN pushes peace plan

SANA'A, Yemen (AP)—Yemeni government forces and allied tribesmen killed 10 militants in attacks around the country Sunday, security officials said, as a visiting United Nations envoy met with embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh to push for a solution to the country’s political crisis. Security has collapsed across the Arab world’s poorest nation during the nine-month popular uprising seeking to oust Saleh, who has been in power for 30 years. Pro-Saleh forces regularly engage in deadly clashes with armed tribesmen and military defectors who support the protesters in Yemen’s largest cities, and al-Qaida-linked militants have taken control of entire towns in the country’s restive south.

Israeli official: military could topple Hamas

REIM MILITARY BASE, Israel (AP)—Weeks after a new round of fighting with Gaza militants subsided, a senior Israeli military official said Sunday that Israel is ready and able to topple the territory’s Hamas government, though it has no immediate plans to do so. The official also said Gaza militants have steadily built up an already formidable arsenal, in part with weapons smuggled out of Libya, and now have rockets capable of striking Tel Aviv, Israel’s cultural and business hub. “If we have to conquer the whole Gaza Strip, we’ll do it,” said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity under Israeli military guidelines. Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005 after a 38-year military occupation.

3,000 Brazilian police seize Rio’s biggest slum

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—More than 3,000 police and soldiers backed by armored personnel carriers raced into Brazil’s biggest slum before dawn Sunday, quickly gaining control of a shantytown ruled for decades by a heavily armed drug gang. The takeover of the Rocinha neighborhood was the most ambitious operation yet in an effort to increase security before Rio hosts the final matches of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics. Officials are counting on those events to signal Brazil’s arrival as a global economic, political and cultural power. The head of state security and chief architect of Rio’s shantytown pacification program, Jose Mariano Beltrame, called the operation a major success and a big step toward breaking drug traffickers’ hold on key parts of Rio.

Overdrive

2012 Mercedes SLK350: There's magic above—and on the road, too

By BARRY SPYKER
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Mercedes sharpened the looks and performance of the 2012 SLK 350, yet that's not where the real "magic" is. For that, one must look to the stars.

It's the coolest feature, an optional sunroof with a blue hue that blocks the sun until you press a button above: Then, it's clear as glass and lets the sun shine in. Called the Magic Sky Control Roof, this unique sunroof is made up of metallic particles that stand when given an electrical charge. Something like that.

Anyway, the result is a functional dimmer when you want the sun out, and an "oh, wow" feature to show your friends.

The magic doesn't come cheap—it's a \$2,500 option. To make matters worse, you'll probably need to get it: the ordinary-glass version (\$500) lacks a sunshade.

Cool option, but there's plenty more to like about the new SLK. And I'm talking to the male roadster lovers, too. This year, SLK goes beyond the chick-car status of the previous generation.

By that I mean Mercedes toughened SLK's look with a bolder, more aggressive front: larger grille and bigger three-point star.

And this third-generation SLK 350 also has the guts and glorious handling it never had before. It used to be quite satisfied being stylish, sexy and comfortable. And it's still all those things.

But now it gets a new 3.5-liter, direct-injected V-6 engine that moves the roadster with spunk and finesse. With 302 hp and 273 pound-feet of torque, it'll pull you to 60 mph in a grin-evoking 5.4 seconds. That's on a par with the beastly SL550.

Mileage for the rear-wheel-drive SLK350 is around 24 mph combined—20 in the city, 29 on the highway if you behave.

By the way, also new this year: The 350's little brother, the 250, gets a 1.8-liter turbocharged engine that gets 201 hp and gets you to 60 mph in 6.5 seconds. Also quite fun and probably enough for many buyers. And a six-speed manual is standard.

SLK handling is boosted with Mercedes' Direct Steering system which offers good response on the curves. Taking corners is smoother and flatter than ever, now in the same league as its popular foes, the BMW Z4 and Porsche Boxter.

It rides on an updated platform stemming from the C-Class. Suspension is a tick less roady than the competition but is still sportier than last year's model. All things considered, this is more of a driver's car than ever.

Retract the roof and the cabin still feels comfortable, thanks to

optional fixed-glass deflectors behind each seat and standard mesh wind deflector. An Air Scarf feature blows warm air on your neck if you can't resist putting the top down when it's chilly.

There are barely any body rattles often associated with roadsters and convertibles.

Equally important, when the top is down there is still decent cargo space in the trunk. It gets reduced from 10 to 6 cubic feet, but it's at least enough for an average-size suitcase or a couple of duffles.

Seats are firm but comfortable and roomy enough, as are leg and head room. Not abundant for a six-plus footer, but enough. Recline the seat-back too far and the seat slides forward, meaning you'll have to compromise leg room.

Materials are nothing short of exquisite, with standard leather and aluminum trim. Pay more and you can get even finer leather and wood trim. Both gorgeous.

Gauges are easy to see even in bright sunlight since they're set back in little tunnels. The 7-inch LCD screen is sharp and clear. Controls and dials are within nice view and reach.

The SLK is loaded with safety features like the usual ABS, traction and stability control, but also multiple air bags that cover the head, knees and body. It also has what Mercedes calls Attention Assist, which monitors the driver's drowsiness.

Among the standards on the 350 are 18-inch wheels, automatic wipers, eight-way power seats with lumbar adjustment, eight-speaker sound and Bluetooth.

The Premium 1 package (\$2,590) adds remote roof activation—you can put down the roof before you even reach the car—and a Harmon Kardon sound system with satellite and iPod connection.

But there's more: A multimedia package (\$2,150) gets a nav system with bigger screen, a six-CD changer and voice control capability. Lighting package (\$1,070) has bi-xenon lamps with active curve lighting. A Distronic Plus package offers adaptive cruise control and a Dynamic Handling package brings adjustable suspension and better brakes.

Additional options, like the dimming sunroof and parking sensor, can be had as solo options.

The great actor and director, John Cassavetes, as he looked to the sky in the flick, *Tempest*, said "Show me the Magic." Well, just look to the sunroof in the 2012 SLK and you'll see it.

But you'll discover even more magic when you hit the open road.

MSRP: \$54,800 As tested: \$64,965 (with Premium 1, Lighting and Multimedia packages)



Mercedes sharpened the looks and performance of the 2012 SLK 350.

MCT

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

†Caridad DLG. Borja Ogo Kiyoshi

Lovingly known as "Nan Da"

Born to life on February 23, 1921

Called to her eternal rest on November 09, 2011

At the age of 90

In her new life, she now joins her:

Husband:	Jose King Kiyoshi, Sr.
Mother:	Juana Deleon Guerrero Borja
Father:	Juan Duenas Ogo
Sons:	Juan Ogo Kiyoshi, Jose Ogo Kiyoshi
Granddaughter:	Carrie Ann Kiyoshi
Grandson:	Bryan Anthony Kiyoshi

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Children: Ignacio O./ Teresa P. Kiyoshi - Dolores P. Kiyoshi (Teresa/Marilyn), Jose P. Kiyoshi/Rosaline C. San Nicolas (Christabel, Jose Jr. Doris, Juana, Joseph), Jesse P. Kiyoshi (Rosa), Ignacio/Isabel Kiyoshi, Jr. (Annabel, Myrese, Philipe, Chelsery, Jerica), Luis P. Kiyoshi (Karen Hocog), Carrie P. Kiyoshi/Lawrence Dupuchel (Dolores, Danielle)

Joaquin O. Kiyoshi/Terry Kingto – Jessica Kingto, Jessilyn Kingto, Christopher

Kiyoshi, Joaquin Jr. Kiyoshi, Conrad Kiyoshi, Jonathan Kiyoshi

Susana Bartley/Jack Durbin – Michael/Mary Ann Kiyoshi (Franklyn, Frankie, Francine /Mark[Zayvier], Franchete, Franco, Frankie, Michael)

Joseph K. Lizama – Jason Flores, Benny Flores/Jerriane Araneta

Juanita/Richard Gibson – Gloria Kiyoshi, Levonne Reyes, Louis Gibson, Richard Gibson, Jr.

Priscillia Kiyoshi/Juan Cabrera – Bolo K. Cabrera, Jr., Mary Pearl K. Cabrera

Antonio O. Kiyoshi – Angel R. Kiyoshi, Joshua C. Kiyoshi/Ashley Kiyoshi, Joshua A. Kiyoshi (Keshaun), Francine A. Kiyoshi, Christine P. Kiyoshi

Patricia/Richard Taitague – Tina /Estanislao Hocog, Jr. (Trent, Jr., Courtney, Joaquine, Estanislao, Jr.), Tricia Bosler, Tanya/Vince Duenas, Sharon Sievers,

Lori T. Castro, Maria Kizzer

Rosa/Steve Greco – Jennyver Greco

She is also survived by numerous Aunties, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins and Godchildren.

Daily Rosary is being said at 12:00PM and 7:00PM at her residence.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2011. Reponso Service will take place at 8:00 am followed by Holy Rosary at 8:30 am. Public viewing and last respects will immediately follow.

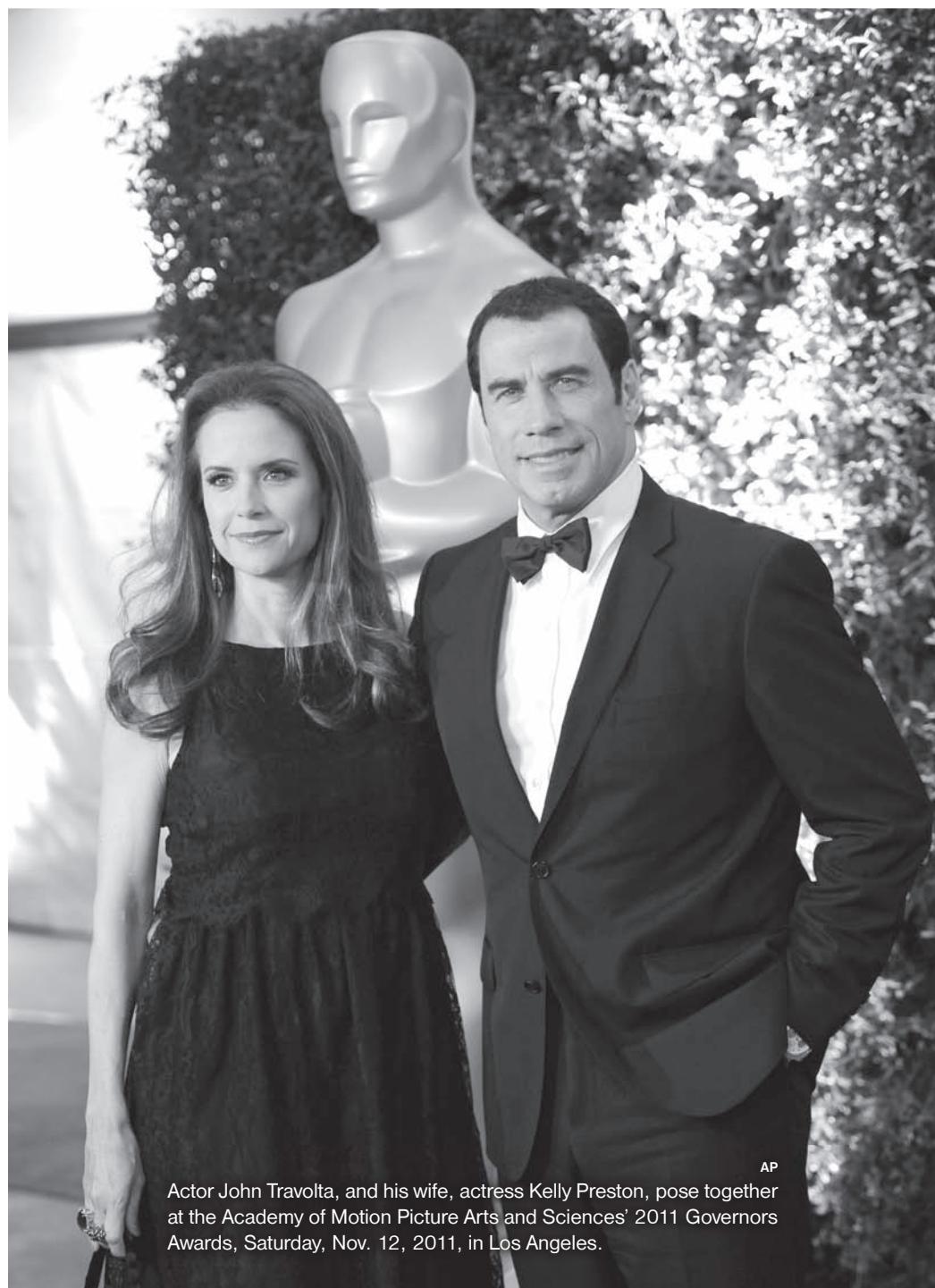
The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 am. Interment Service will follow immediately at the Tinian Public Cemetery..

Please join us in prayers.
Thank you – *Si Yu'us Ma'ase*

The Family

Life & Style

Oscar's tumultuous week ends with Governors Awards



Actor John Travolta, and his wife, actress Kelly Preston, pose together at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' 2011 Governors Awards, Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After a tumultuous week that saw the departure and replacement of the Oscar show's host and producer, the film academy enjoyed a night of good vibes Saturday at its third annual Governors Awards. You might even say the force was with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Armed "Star Wars" storm troopers ensured guests were in their seats and paying attention as Darth Vader opened the evening honoring James Earl Jones, Oprah Winfrey and makeup artist Dick Smith. Under Vader's helmet was academy president Tom Sherak, who welcomed the audience of industry insiders with, "How was your week?"

Over the past week, Oscar producer Brett Ratner and host Eddie Murphy resigned and were replaced with producer Brian Grazer and host Billy Crystal. Ratner departed the Oscar show amid criticism of his use of a pejorative term for gay men at a screening of the director's action comedy "Tower Heist," which stars Murphy.

Saturday's untelevised Governors Awards, though, couldn't

have been smoother, as Jones, Smith and Winfrey accepted Oscar statuettes in front of a starry crowd that included John Travolta, Alec Baldwin, Woody Harrelson, Sharon Stone, Seth Rogen, Sidney Poitier and Tyler Perry, among others.

Jones, who famously voiced Vader, accepted his award by video from London's Wyndham Theater, where he is starring in "Driving Miss Daisy" with Vanessa Redgrave. Baldwin and Glenn Close feted the actor before Sir Ben Kingsley presented him with his Oscar onstage in London.

Close called Jones "a world treasure" and Kingsley said the 80-year-old actor is "always so damn good."

A beaming Jones said receiving an Oscar in such a fashion is "an actor's wet dream."

"I'm deeply honored, mighty grateful and just plain gobsmacked," he said.

Smith, the groundbreaking makeup artist who counts "The Exorcist" and "The Godfather" among his credits, was lauded for his long career and his generosity in sharing the secrets of his craft. Writer-directors J.J. Abrams, Peter Jackson and

Guillermo del Toro saluted the 89-year old.

Abrams, creator of TV's "Lost" and "Fringe," said Smith "was the Beatles to me" and told of how he wrote a fan letter to the makeup artist and received an "old but clean" tongue from "The Exorcist" in return.

Smith said being honored by the academy was "an incredible joy, one of the greatest I've ever had in my whole life."

"I have loved being a makeup artist so much," he said, "but ... to have so much kindness given to me all at once is just too much. I am so grateful."

Winfrey was introduced by Quincy Jones, Travolta, Maria Shriver, producer Larry Gordon and a student she'd never met but whose education she funded.

Travolta said "the academy got it right" when it chose the media mogul to receive its Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, calling her "the most wonderful person in the world, the most magical person in the world and the most powerful person in the world."

Winfrey cried and nuzzled into boyfriend Stedman Graham as Shriver and the others spoke of her generosity, which

includes providing scholarships for 65,000 students.

She said receiving an Oscar for philanthropy is "unimaginable" given her humble beginnings in Mississippi.

"It's impossible for you to even know what this journey has meant," Winfrey said.

Appearing in "The Color Purple" was "one of the greatest experiences of my life," she said. When Quincy Jones tapped her for the role of Sofia—for which she earned an Oscar nomination for supporting actress—he changed the course of her career.

"I'd like to do more films, but to receive the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award means more to me than any film, any acclaim, even an Oscar, because what it says is you all get it," Winfrey said. "What this really means is that you all understand that what I've been trying to do, what I've been trying to say all these years, (which) is that all of us can make a difference through the life that we live."

Winfrey said she plans to keep her new Oscar front and center on her desk.

"For me this Oscar will represent love from all of you,"

she said. "I thank you for your vote of love and I will use it to increase the open space in my heart to continue to do the great and good work that we all have come to do."

The film academy launched its Governors Awards three years ago to pay tribute to winners of honorary Oscars—prizes previously presented during the Academy Awards telecast. Governors from its 15 branches chose Saturday's winners.

Highlights from the event will be available online at Oscars.org and included in the Academy Awards telecast in February.

Oscars honors Vanessa Redgrave in London

LONDON (AP)—Vanessa Redgrave was hailed at a Hollywood film academy tribute Sunday, praised as an actress and an activist by A-list friends including Ralph Fiennes, Meryl Streep and James Earl Jones.

More than 30 years after she shocked the Oscars ceremony with a fiercely political acceptance speech, Redgrave was the subject of an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences retrospective—its first to an actor in Europe.

"I love this woman. My wife understands," said Jones, who is currently starring alongside Redgrave in "Driving Miss Daisy" on the London stage.

"I stand in profound admiration of her courage, both on and off the stage," said Jones, who received an honorary Academy Award on Saturday—presented to him in front of a surprised matinee audience at Wyndham's Theatre.

Redgrave's bold artistic and political choices were a theme of the evening, hosted by playwright David Hare.

A member of a famous British acting dynasty that includes her father, sister, brother and two daughters, Redgrave has appeared in more than 100 films since her 1958 debut in "Behind the Mask." She is also known for her humanitarian work as a UNICEF ambassador, and for decades of left-wing political activism.

The 74-year-old actress has been nominated for six Oscars and won for her supporting role as an anti-Nazi activist in 1977's "Julia."

Her victory led to one of the most startling moments in Oscar history. The Jewish Defense League had objected to her nomination and picketed the ceremony because Redgrave had narrated and helped fund a documentary, "The Palestinian," which supported a Palestinian state.

In her acceptance speech, Redgrave praised the academy for not being intimidated by "a



U.S. actress Meryl Streep, left, talks to British actress Vanessa Redgrave, right, at a central London cinema for an evening to pay homage to the Oscar-winning actress, called 'An Academy Salute to Vanessa Redgrave', Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011.

small bunch of Zionist hoodlums whose behavior is an insult to the stature of Jews all over the world and their great and heroic record of struggle against fascism and oppression." Her comments were met by gasps, boos and growing applause.

Streep—who made her film debut in "Julia"—said that speech was the moment when she first recognized that "fame was not just this stupid vanity ... you could use it to make a difference in the world."

Fiennes, British actress Eileen Atkins, Liam Neeson and Jane Fonda added their own tributes to a performer Fonda called "my friend ... my idol ... my mentor."

Hare screened clips from across Redgrave's eclectic career—from landmark 1960s

films like "Blow-Up" to the musical "Camelot" and dramas such as "Julia" and "Second Serve," in which Redgrave played transsexual tennis pro Renee Richards.

Hare said she was one of a generation of actresses who "went on to be so much more interesting than their early stereotyping allowed." But he noted that she was also "fated to live parallel public lives: first as a celebrity and secondly as an actor."

Atkins said the two words most often used about Redgrave were "courage" and "radiance."

"And I think that comes from her true belief that basically mankind is very good," Atkins said. "She believes in humanity, and not many people do."



Max Greenfield, from left, Jake Johnson, Zooey Deschanel and Lamorne Morris star in "New Girl," airing at 9 p.m. Tuesdays on Fox.

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Immortals

Friday & Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25

Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, Freida Pinto
Epic • Rated R

Synopsis

A brave young stonemason assembles a fierce band of warriors to prevent an evil king from acquiring the artifact that will permit him to rule the world in this epic mythological fantasy from visionary filmmaker Tarsem Singh. King Hyperion (Mickey Rourke) is a brutal tyrant on a bloody mission to seek out the mythical Bow of Epirus. Should he succeed, even the Gods of Olympus will be forced to bow before him. In his efforts to locate the invincible and elusive weapon, Hyperion leads his Heraklion army on a brutal rampage across Greece, razing every town in their path, and killing with impunity. When the Hyperions lay waste to his village and cut down his mother in cold blood, vengeful stonemason Theseus (Henry Cavill) emerges from the rubble determined to make the king pay for his crimes.



Jack and Jill

Friday & Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15

Adam Sandler, Katie Holmes
Comedy • Rated PG



Tower Heist

Friday & Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00

Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy
Crime, Comedy • Rated PG 13



A Very Harold and Kumar Christmas

Friday & Saturday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10

John Cho, Kal Penn, Neil Patrick Harris
Comedy • Rated R



Puss in Boots

Friday & Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05

Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek
Children's/family • Rated PG



In Time

Friday & Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20

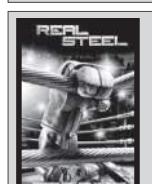
Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried
Thriller • Rated PG 13



Paranormal Activity 3

Friday Saturday 1:30 7:30
Sunday 1:30 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 7:30

Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman, directing
Thriller, Horror • Rated R



Real Steel

Friday & Saturday 4:30 10:00
Saturday 4:30
Sunday 4:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:30

Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo
Science fiction/Drama • Rated PG 13

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New Girl's' guys are her support system

By YVONNE VILLARREAL

LOS ANGELES TIMES

guys. A very weird, girly guy who likes to watch "Dirty Dancing" and do the chicken dance in slow motion.

"This is like the ultra-modern 'Sex and the City,'" joked Johnson ("No Strings Attached"), who plays Nick, the hopeless romantic of the show.

Actually, "New Girl" backs away from the "Sex and the City" female buddy route, currently employed by "2 Broke Girls." And it's not nearly as male-centric as ABC's "Man Up."

Rather, it aims to highlight the female-male buddy relationship. It's the dynamic TBS' "My Boys," which ended its run last year, focused on and the rapport ABC's "Happy Endings" plays with at times.

"I wanted a girl sort of walking into a different world—a guy world," said Liz Meriwether, the series creator. "Guys help you in a different way than girls can. You get that tough love."

Meriwether said the idea was semi-autobiographical: "I started looking around my life and realized I had a lot of friends who were guys and I was thinking about why that was." The original premise was an updated "Three's Company"—with two guys and a girl, she said.

But in the end, they threw a

third male perspective into the mix to tip the gender balance and make things "more interesting."

The result is a trio of guys who will push Jess to face her ex-boyfriend and demand he return her TV (because they need a TV) or will ditch a club with one-night-stand potential to rescue her when a date stands her up. They are the wind beneath her wings, if you will.

And they're the kind of fellas male viewers would have a beer with and female viewers want to watch a romantic comedy with.

They are the secret ingredient of the series, keeping Deschanel's loopy character balanced (as much as she can be).

"Jess is a weird chick," said Morris, who plays low-key

Winston, the character written to fill the void left by original "New Girl" guy Damon Wayans Jr., who now appears on ABC's "Happy Endings." "But that's why we love her. That's why we care about her. We're all learning from each other ... in ways we wouldn't be able to if we were just hanging with our own sexes. We'd be, like, talking about Axe body spray all day or something."

Behind the scenes, the connection between Deschanel and the trio is evident.

1. "Immortals," \$32 million (\$36 million international).
2. "Jack and Jill," \$26 million (\$2.7 million international).
3. "Puss in Boots," \$25.5 million (\$4.5 million international).
4. "Tower Heist," \$13.2 million (\$7.6 million international).
5. "J. Edgar," \$11.5 million.
6. "A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas," \$5.9 million.
7. "In Time," \$4.2 million (\$8.5 million international).
8. "Paranormal Activity 3," \$3.6 million (\$7.1 million international).
9. "Footloose," \$2.7 million.
10. "Real Steel," \$2 million (\$12 million international).

'Immortals' reigns with \$32M opening weekend

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The gods of ancient Greece have extended their rule to the weekend box office with a No. 1 debut for the action tale "Immortals."

The story of Greek hero Theseus took in \$32 million domestically, while Adam Sandler's comedy "Jack and Jill" opened at No. 2 with \$26 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The new movies bumped the animated hit "Puss in Boots" to the No. 3 spot after two weekends at the top. "Puss in Boots" earned \$25.5 million, raising its domestic total to \$108.8 million. Director Clint Eastwood's

When Johnson is having difficulty keeping his balance on his skates, the 31-year-old actress/singer-songwriter instructs him to bend his knees. "You are such a dork," she quips when even that fails him.

Even so, there's something to be said about the friendship among the guys sans the spotlight that inevitably follows Deschanel. Before filming the skating scene, the men sat huddled in Johnson's tiny trailer and their boyish manliness exposed itself. They threw a baseball to one another while talking; they talked about the "awesome"-ness that is Bob Dylan; they yanked one another's chain, like when Greenfield was taunted for his in-depth knowledge of "Glee."

"The three of us very much understand the uniqueness of the situation we're in," Johnson said. "It's not every day you get on a TV show and it strikes a chord. You do pilot after pilot. Failed show after failed show. But when you get on a show that gets some traction—I know it's still in the early stages for us—but you go, 'OK, wow, we're in a real situation here.'"

The earnest moment lasts for only so long.

"Who knew you were such a sap?" Greenfield says.

family movies such as "Happy Feet 2," "The Muppets," "Hugo" and "Arthur Christmas."

"The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn—Part 1" does open Friday, but that blockbuster action fantasy franchise mainly draws female crowds, typically a smaller segment of the action audience.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Copper sword stolen from statue at Lincoln's Tomb

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—Copper thieves have struck at Abraham Lincoln's burial site in Springfield, Ill.

An employee recently noticed that a copper statue atop the tomb was missing a 3-foot-

long sword. The statue is of a Civil War artillery officer.

The sword was allegedly taken sometime between September and early November. It was broken at the handle.

Dave Blanchette is spokesman

for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. He tells the (Springfield) State Journal-Register (<http://bit.ly/sxWgJm>) that the theft is believed to be the first to state property stolen at the Lincoln Tomb Historic Site since the same sword was stolen more than a century ago.

State officials plan to repair the statue.

A guard used to be stationed at the tomb overnight, but Blanchette says the position was cut amid budget problems.

'Hawaii Five-0' cast to aid veterans project

HONOLULU (AP)—The stars of CBS' "Hawaii Five-0" will be lending a hand off-screen to military school kids at Pearl Harbor.

Actors Alex O'Loughlin, Scott Caan, Daniel Dae Kim and Masi Oka will be among

the volunteers Monday helping to plant a garden at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Husband and wife athletes Laird Hamilton and Gabrielle Reece will also be volunteering.

The American Heart Associa-

tion Teaching Garden will serve as a hands-on way to educate children about the importance of healthy habits.

The project is part of an initiative to support U.S. veterans through community service.

First Lady Michelle Obama, who launched her Joining Forces initiative in April with the vice-president's wife, Jill Biden, will be speaking at the base Monday during a hiring fair for veterans.

On 'SNL,' Penn State scandal offends even Satan

NEW YORK (AP)—On "Saturday Night Live," even the devil was offended by the Penn State child sex abuse scandal.

"SNL" cast member Jason Sudeikis reprised his role as Satan, appearing with red horns

and pitchfork. The devil was informed by "Weekend Update" host Seth Meyers of sex charges against a former defensive coordinator and allegations that university officials failed to report the abuse.

Even he was disturbed by the news. Addressing Penn State students who protested football coach Joe Paterno's firing, the devil spoke directly into the camera, asking, "Do you know how bad that made you look?"

Disgusted by the scandal, the devil says, "Evil isn't what it used to be."

He pledged to quit and said he would return to his old job: customer service for a cable TV company.

CELEBRITY EXTRA

By CINDY ELAVSKY
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.

Q: I am heartbroken that Fox has canceled "America's Most Wanted." I've watched the show since the beginning, and I am

so proud of all the good John Walsh and his crew have done to "get those dirtbags off the streets"! Is there an address for Fox that we can write to, hopefully to change their minds?—Gertrude T., via e-mail

A: I have good news for you, Gertrude. Lifetime Television recently announced that it has picked up John Walsh's top crime-fighting show, which will return for its 25th season later this year. While there is not an exact airdate scheduled as of this writing, keep an eye on this column for updates as I get them. Also, check online at www.celebri-tyextraonline.com as December gets closer for my exclusive interview with John Walsh about the resurrection

of "AMW" on Lifetime. I'm sure we'll also talk about all those "creeps" and "slimeballs" that John will be trying to capture this upcoming season.

Q: I loved the TV show "Lost" and have been wondering about the man who played Sawyer. He is such a good actor. Do you have any info on what he's doing now?—Janet R., Newark, Ohio

A: The handsome Josh Holloway, 42, has been keeping pretty busy since "Lost" ended last year. You can see him again soon on the big screen in "Mission: Impossible—Ghost Protocol." In the movie, which hits theaters on Dec. 21, Josh plays Trevor Hanaway, a member of Ethan Hunt's (played by Tom Cruise) Mission Impossible force, along with Ving Rhames and Academy Award-nominee Jeremy Renner.

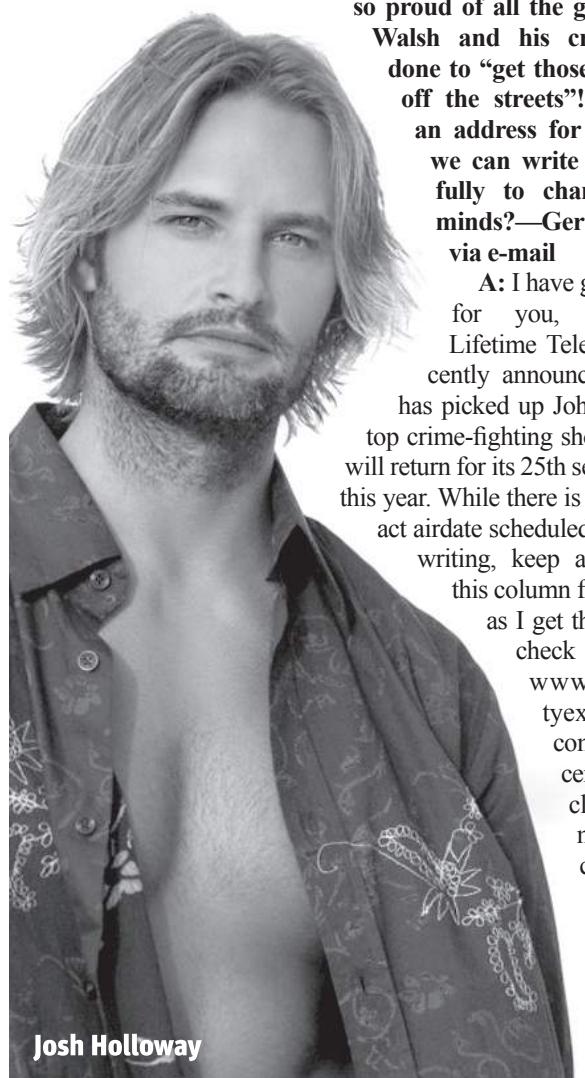
Q: I really liked your idea a few months back of having Beth Littleford (of "Crazy Stupid Love") playing James Spader's wife in "The Office" this season, but now I hear Maura Tierney has been tapped for the part. Is that true? If so, what do you think about that?—Holly T., via e-mail

A: While Maura is no stranger to comedy—she co-starred on "News Radio" from 1995-99—she usually plays the straight (wo)man, which is exactly what James Spader needs, now that we are getting a better idea of what his character, Robert California, is like. So now I make this modest proposal: How about we cast Beth as Robert's Scranton mistress? Her offbeat and hilarious sense of humor, along with her improv skills and deadpan humor, would make her the perfect "secret lover" for the new boss, as well as an excellent foil for the rest of the cast. Are you listening, Paul Lieberstein and crew?

Q: I really like the reality/survival series, "The Colony," on the Discovery Channel. When will the third season start?—Jane R., Philadelphia

A: According to a Discovery Channel representative, currently there are no plans to bring "The Colony" back in 2011. I'll keep checking and keep you posted as I learn any more details for 2012.

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or e-mail her at cindyelavsky.com.



Josh Holloway

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Ex-porn star reading to LA students causes stir

COMPTON, Calif. (AP)—Some parents have filed complaints with the Parent-Teacher Association after a former adult film star said she read to children in a classroom at a Los Angeles County elementary school. Sasha Grey, a 23-year-old ex-porn actress who has appeared in mainstream shows like HBO's "Entourage," was a guest earlier this month at Compton's Emerson Elementary School for Read Across America Day. Grey tweeted Nov. 2 that she spent the day reading to students in the first and third grades. KTLA-TV

quoted parents questioning whether it was appropriate to have Grey at the school. Parent Dudley Wheaton wondered why the school couldn't find a fireman or a police officer to read to students. Grey has not appeared in porn films in over two years. She has been a regular on "Entourage" and appeared in the 2009 film "The Girlfriend Experience."

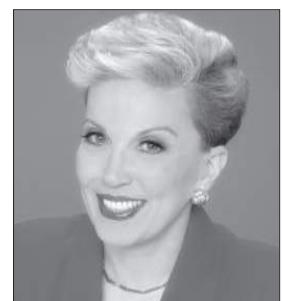
Company seeks Alaska Army wives for TV show

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP)—A new reality television show is looking for cast members in Alaska. The Fairbanks Daily

News-Miner reports 44 Blue Productions is seeking people for "Army Wives of Alaska." The company has produced shows such as "The True Story of Black Hawk Down," "U.S. Navy Pirate Hunters" and "Cell Dogs." Army Alaska is supporting the show and will host the production company when staff members interview spouses this month. Company co-owner Stephanie Dachkovitch says she was an "Army kid" herself and her mother was an Army wife. She says her company wants to show military spouses in extraordinary conditions. She says the company will seek spouses of military personnel in different units and ranks.

Cancer patient is stunned by woman's tasteless joke

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have been battling breast cancer and have been blessed to have a lot of support from family, friends and some awesome medical providers. My husband's best friend and his wife socialize with us quite often, and the friendship is important to him. I recently celebrated a birthday and these friends had us over for a belated birthday dinner. They bought me beautiful flowers and a gift. The card attached made a joke about my "aging breasts," which she found quite funny.

Abby, I had a mastectomy, which she knew about! To make matters worse, my hair has just started to grow back from the chemo, so I decided to have some highlights put in, and she told me she didn't like my new hair.

I am hurt and dumbfounded by her insensitive behavior. Unfortunately, this isn't the first time she has said things like this. How do I tell her I'm offended by her rudeness without compromising my husband's friendship with them?

HARRIED FRIEND

DEAR HARRIED FRIEND: You nailed it. The woman is insensitive—but you said she has also made tasteless comments in the past. For the sake of the friendship between your husbands, tune her out and spend less time with her one-on-one. It's OK to tell her that her joke about your "aging breasts" hurt your feelings in light of your mastectomy, and that as your hair is growing back you thought you'd like to try something "different." However, if you use the word "offended" she'll probably become defensive, so avoid that word.

A final thought: Most people are terrified of cancer. People sometimes try to make jokes about things that make them uncomfortable in an effort to diffuse those feelings. This may be the reason the woman tried to joke about it, so don't let it cause you to carry a grudge.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have recently reconciled with my girlfriend of six years, "Molly." It has been five months since our last fallout and longest breakup. While we were apart, a woman I knew through my business made it clear that she was interested in me. One thing led to another and "Tish" and I slept together. Now she's pregnant.

I'm happy to be back with Molly now, but have been contacted recently by Tish with proof of the pregnancy. I'm afraid Molly will leave me if she knows about it. She's the woman of my dreams and the one I want to spend the rest of my life with. Help, please.

IT'S COMPLICATED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR IT'S COMPLICATED: I'll try. Talk to Molly about this and consult an attorney. Molly should not hold against you something that happened while you were separated. Whether the child is yours can be determined by a paternity test. If it is yours, you will be responsible for providing child support until he or she is an adult and emotional support well beyond. If Molly is, indeed, the woman of your dreams, she'll stand beside you. If not, you are better off without her.

And in the future, please use birth control, so you can plan the number of offspring you bring into this world.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I work as a mattress salesperson. Often when I tell my senior customers about the 10-year warranty on a bed, they'll reply, "Oh, I doubt I'll be around that long."

At that point I'm usually at a loss for words. Any suggestions as to an appropriate response?

SPEECHLESS IN SUFFERN, N.Y.

DEAR SPEECHLESS: Smile and say, "Then be sure to include the mattress in your will."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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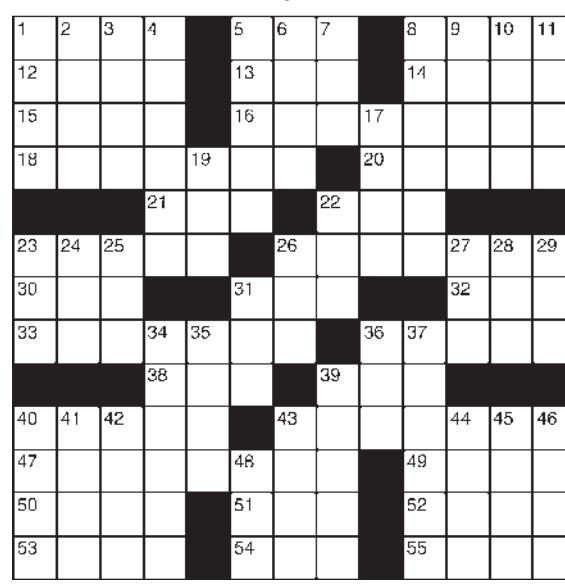


CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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8 Spades or hearts		47 Thurgood of the Supreme Court	6	proper way						
12 Former larva		49 Title	7	Willy Wonka's creator						
13 Writer Fleming		50 Rim	8	Female friend						
14 Leading man?		51 Dove's call	9	Mine entrance						
15 CEO, e.g.		52 Siblings' biz abbr.	10	Manhandle						
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STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jonny Lee Miller, 39; Beverly D'Angelo, 60; Sam Waterston, 71; Ed Asner, 82.

Happy Birthday: Stay on top of your to-do list. Put honesty first and speak from the heart. People from your past will show an interest in what you are doing. An unusual turn of events will alter your domestic environment. Embrace what you are offered and collaborate with someone who has as much to contribute as you do. Your numbers are 8, 15, 22, 24, 30, 37, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do what you can to improve your home and domestic life financially and emotionally. You'll face criticism if you are too busy pleasing outsiders instead of the ones who are always in your corner. Do something nice for the ones you love. ☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Short trips are highlighted. Engage in conversation that brings you knowledge about something you want to pursue. Getting the OK from people you love will be easy if you are straightforward about the details. ☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your desire for change may not make everyone close to you happy. Your best bet is to inch your way in the direction you want without making a big splash. Once you have things in order you can share your plans and your success. ☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your feelings. Added responsibilities can be lifted if you are honest about what you can and are willing to do and what you are not.

Don't be afraid to apply a little pressure if someone gives you a hard time. ☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You need a change of pace and a change of scenery. Make plans that will allow you the freedom to interact with people who can contribute to some of your ideas and plans for the future. Love is highlighted during the evening hours. ☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful how you approach touchy topics when dealing with friends, relatives or your lover. Kindness and compassion will help you get what you want; criticism will not. Expand your interests if it will help you share a special moment with someone. ☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Not everyone will be on your side. Be careful when sharing your ideas and plans, especially with colleagues or someone who can make an impact on your future. Allow a little time for something entertaining. It will lift your spirits. ☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Question anyone who is dubious. It's up to you to ferret out any information that you need to know before making a decision, especially if it has to do with your income. Someone from your past may be the ideal partner in your future. ☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Work behind the scenes. Finish your work before you reveal what you are trying to accomplish. It's better to surprise everyone than to fall short of the expectations you have raised in others. ☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Getting along with others will be half the battle. Put your time and effort into building a strong and stable base at home emotionally, financially and physically. Spend time with the people who really mean something to you. ☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Communication can resolve misunderstandings. Engage in heartfelt communication and you will find out where you stand with people in your personal and professional world. Diplomacy and charm will help you win trust as well as favors. ☀

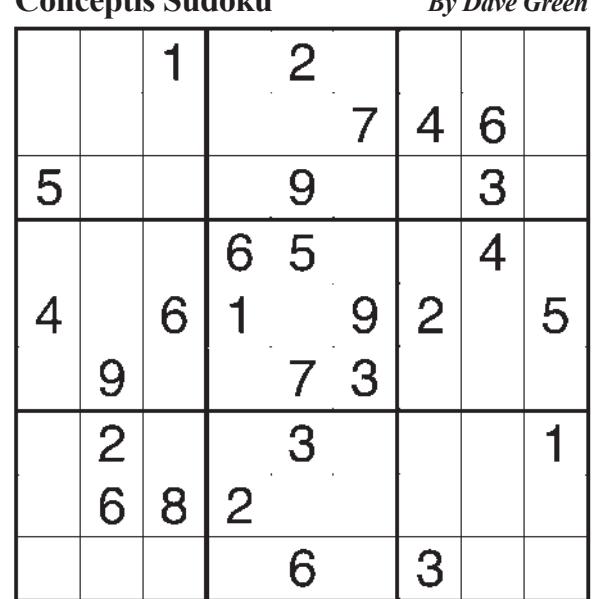
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Watch what you say if you socialize. Not everyone will share your opinion, and you may be judged harshly. Greater effort put into earning a living or finding ways to subsidize your income will bring positive results as well as praise. ☀

Birthday Baby: You are creative, caring and intent on following your own path. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

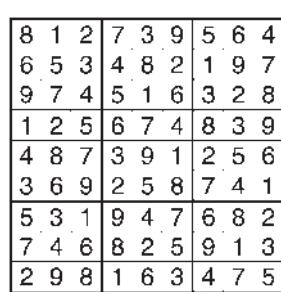
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MAKING PDF FILES



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Acrobat, Adobe, Array, Attributes, Color, Computer, Convert, Data, Digital, Disable, Encryption, File, Font, Format, Image, Interpreter, Keys, Language, Mapping, Modem, Module, Numbering, Open, Operating, Password, Photos, Print, Reader, Screen, Script, Standard, Steps, Streams, Strings, Suite, Text, Threads, Unicode, User, Work, Writer
Yesterday's Answer: Capsaicin

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CLASSIFIED ADS



WJC Mart Job Vacancy Announcement

6-Fishermen
2 years experience in trolling, diving, and bottom fishing. Minimum salary.
1 – Administrative Assistant (Sales and related occupation)
At least 3 years experience in fish mart business required. Willing to work in a flexible schedule. Minimum salary
2 – Retail Sales Person
1 year experience in direct selling of fish required. Knowledge on proper cleaning of fish is a must. Willing to work in a flexible schedule. Minimum salary

Interested applicants may submit their resume to
P.O. Box 503742 Saipan MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ACCOUNTANT (1) – Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with a minimum of 5 years work related experience, proficient in MS Word, Excel, Peachtree and QuickBooks, knowledge of General Accounting and aviation industry, maintain book of accounts, knows how to prepare Financial Statements, Bank Reconciliation, Bookkeeping, Year End Reports, Revenue requirements, Accounts receivables and payables, payroll, withholding tax, FICA, BGRT, excise tax and other work assigned; drop and pick up of customers, booking of charter flights, medical evacuation preparation and directly report to the President. Rate: \$5.05 to \$ 7.50/hr.

GENERAL MECHANIC (1) – Minimum of 5 years professional experience as general mechanic, repairs and maintains physical structures of the facility, repairs of vehicles, office machines and equipments, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, air condition, and all other equipments of the company. Rate: \$5.05 to \$ 7.50/hr.

Interested applicants can mail their resume at P.O. Box 7688 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 or may email to saipan@americopters.com. No phone calls please.

new wave dental JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Dental Assistant
5 years minimum experience. Must also be able to fabricate partial dentures. \$6.50/hour
Dental Hygienist
3 years minimum experience. \$6.50 to \$8.00/hour
Bookkeeper/Office Assistant
Must have good computer skills. Must be confident, outgoing and professional. \$6.00+ / hour

Drop resume with photo to our clinic, located in Middle Road across Garapan Central Park. Call 233-3300 only if needed.

Commercial Space For Rent

4,500 sq. ft. located in San Jose (formerly Wells Fargo)

Call Mr. Jung at 287-1000

**STYROFOAM
4'X8' SHEETS
TEL.: 287-3700**

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) COOKS

Must have a minimum experience of 3 months
At least High School Graduate
Willing to work at 4:00 in the morning
Know how to drive but not a must

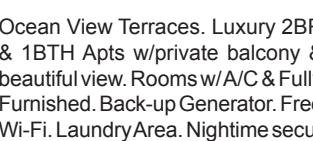
Applicants must call 789-9151 to schedule for an interview by Fely P. Forbes dba Lydia's Kitchen.

FOR SALE



09 Toyota Corolla, Mil. 32,500. Excellent Condition. Price \$11,200. Pls Call 287-7676.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL



Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Condominium for Rent. Anaks Oceanview Resort. 2 brm, 1 bath. Fully furnished. Contact 287-0396.

EMPLOYMENT

20+ positions. Cleaner/Maid/Gardener. 2 yrs work rel. exp. Flexible hrs req. Qualified U.S. workers send resume to dfaloan@yahoo.com or call 285-9390.

(1) Jewelry Appraiser. Must have 4 – 5 yrs experience in jewelry appraisal, honest and trustworthy.

(1) Electrical Supervisor (Refrigeration & Air-conditioning). Must be a college graduate with 10 yrs experience in the field of electricity and in refrigeration and air-conditioning system. Skilled and knowledgeable in electrical plan and design. Registered Master Electrician required and certified in refrigeration and air-conditioning—Universal License. Applicants must mail resume with valid identifications, police clearance and previous employment certification to GOLDEN EAGLE CORPORATION PMB 326 PPP BOX 10000 SAIPAN, MP 96950.

(1) Steel Welder and (1) Commercial Cleaner. With 3 years experience. Minimum wage. Must be able to work flexible hours. Email resume to splcspn@yahoo.com no later than Nov. 19, 2011. South Pacific Lumber Co.

(1) YokYung Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager, (1) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer. Preferable Korean speaking. Minimum wage. Please fax resume to 235-7742. Attention: YokYung Corporation.

(1) Rising Star, LLC is looking for (1) Commercial Cleaner. Salary-\$5.05/hr. Please fax resume to 235-7742.

(1) Saipan Hwa Rang Corporation is looking for (1) General Manager – 5 yrs. experience in Hotel and Construction business. Preferably Japanese, Korean and English speaking. (3) Bldg. Maintenance Repairer – at least 2 years experience, willing to work flexible hours and night time. Interested applicants, please call 287-4488 from 11:00am–4:00pm.

(1) General Maintenance Mechanic – at least 2 years experience in Scuba Diving business. Fax resume to Crow's Nests Corporation at 235-7742.

(1) Bookkeeper at least 2 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Qualified US Workers may fax resume to 235-2231. Island Essence Inc.

(1) Grounds Maintenance Worker at least 3 years work experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Please submit resume with attached copies of driver's license, police and health clearance to Man's Services, LLC P.O. Box 503393 Saipan, MP 96950.

(1) CAD Operator. 5 yrs exp in Public Utilities (water & wastewater) design. ACAD v2012. Send resume to PO Box 5339

3 Managers Wholesale/Retail w/ 3 yrs experience Pls contact Stacy at 2879288 LW Corporation.

(1) Store Manager. Experience in importing musical instruments and commercial goods preferred. Myong Run Corp. 323-2468.

WHATZIT Solution:
Bring up the rear

Saipan Tribune
Make it your daily habit.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Grounds Maintenance Worker (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience in Grounds Maintenance to include working with various machinery such as Lawnmower & Bushcutter, plus other the Gardening tools such as machete, tree saw, scissor trimmer. Must also have knowledge and experience in plant maintenance, care, and cultivation. Other duties may include some general commercial cleaning plus light carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work as assigned. Must be reliable, dependable, good character & trustworthy. Must have valid CNMI Driver's License. Minimum Wage. No Benefits, Work Holidays and weekends as required. Must be Flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Building Maintenance Repairer (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Work Experience as Building Maintenance Repairer to include working with various work tools and machinery necessary for all kinds of building repairs. Must have general knowledge and experience in carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work. Must be reliable and dependable. Have valid CNMI Driver's License Preferred. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Commercial Cleaner (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 years experience in Commercial Cleaning. Must be able to maintain floors (Mop, sweep, vacuum), maintain restrooms (Clean and Deodorize), maintain office spaces, collect and dispose of trash, clean windows plus other related duties as assigned. Must be reliable and dependable. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Houseworker (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience. Must be well rounded in household duties such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, ironing, & care giving. Duties would be inclusive of cleaning & deodorizing restrooms, cleaning windows, maintaining floors, collecting & disposing of trash. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Administrative Assistant (1 Position) – High School Graduate. College Degree preferred. With 5 years work experience. Duties to include Bookkeeping work, Maintaining Petty Cash Accounts, Receive Cash & Prepare Receipts, Prepare Deposits, Renew Various Licenses and Permits, Maintain Administrative and Business Files, Compile & Prepare BGR Tax Returns, Compose & Prepare Employee Qtrly WH Tax Returns plus Federal 941SS Tax Returns, Prepare Lease Agreements, Prepare Business Correspondence plus other related duties. Must have knowledge and experience with Peachtree Accounting Software. Must have good people skills in addressing customers, clients, & tenants courteously. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage to \$7.50 per hour commensurate with experience. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Please submit resume or job history along with your contact information to Sablan Enterprises, Inc Corporate Office located on the 2nd Floor of Sablan Building Chalan Piao above Subway. Call 234-2585 for more information.

Two (2) Sales Representatives

Minimum qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).

Duties: Works with corporate officers in planning, formulating and establishing a business plan, and sales strategy to attain company's sales goals and objectives. Manages and directs activities of sales personnel and ensures that company's sales techniques and price guidelines are being followed. Establishes and maintains business relationships with customers and negotiates sales contracts. Resolves any customer concerns or complaints regarding sales and service. Maintains records of all sales activities; monitors customer preferences to determine focus of sales efforts; and analyses pricing points and volume in order to make necessary modifications in sales strategy to improve wholesale sales and keep the company competitive. Plans and directs promotional activities and opportunities for expansion of company's product lines and market areas.

One (1) Bookkeeper

Minimum qualifications: Associate degree in Accounting (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent), two years experience as bookkeeper or accountant for wholesale company and working knowledge of QuickBooks software.

Duties: Records company's wholesale business transactions and retains all accounting records. Posts, verifies and reconciles accounts payables, accounts receivables, expenses, payroll, and other ledger accounts. Prepares preliminary financial reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing account information.

Prepares payroll and payroll taxes and distributions to government. Prepares gross receipts tax returns. Documents business transactions and verifies purchase order and other financial transactions in order to substantiate the transactions prior to settlement. Maintains and reconciles bank accounts.

Two (2) Sales Representatives

Minimum qualifications: Associates degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).

Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quotes prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepares sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensures that customers' orders are properly filled. Arranges for delivery of products to customers.

One (1) Sales / Delivery Person

Minimum qualifications: Three months experience as a sales/delivery person or cashier.

Duties: Sells and delivers company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Informs regular customers of new products or price changes. Writes customer orders and sales contracts according to company guidelines. Collects money from customers, make change, and record transactions on customer receipts. Listens to and resolves customers' complaints regarding products. Records sales and delivery information on daily sales or delivery record. May call on prospective customers to explain company products or to solicit new business.

One (1) Sales/Delivery Driver

Duties: Sells and delivers company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. May be required to work night shift. Writes customer orders and sales contracts according to company guidelines. Collects money from customers, make change, and records transactions on customer receipts. Records sales and delivery information on daily sales or delivery record. Listens to and resolves customers' complaints regarding products.

One (1) Graphic Artist

Minimum qualifications: Four years experience as a graphic artist for wholesale company with a minimum of 550 sales items.

Duties: Designs and creates visual products to meet company's promotional needs, including designing and creating promotional displays and marketing brochures, signs and signage systems, packaging, menus, and other visual products. Formulates visual marketing campaign and overall design concepts for company to reach target markets. Applies critical thinking and problem solving analysis to various design concepts and approaches that can be utilized to attain the desired effect on the target market. Creates innovative design solutions utilizing knowledge of graphic design theory and methodologies in conjunction with current cultural trends, market demographics, cultural preferences, and seasonal shifts to achieve optimum market response. Produces and coordinates the execution of mock-up and final graphic design and artwork for the visual products.

One (1) Building Maintenance Repairer

Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as building maintenance repairer.

Duties: Repairs and maintains the building structures and equipment of the company's commercial and industrial premises, including such duties as pipe fitting, insulating, welding, machining, carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings. Performs routine preventive maintenance to ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, building systems operate efficiently, or the physical condition of buildings does not deteriorate. Inspects, operates, or tests machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Assembles, installs, or repairs wiring, electrical or electronic components, pipe systems, plumbing, machinery, or equipment. Repairs or replaces defective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools, and reassembles equipment. Records type and cost of maintenance or repair work.

One (1) Building Custodian

Minimum qualifications: Three months experience as building custodian or maintenance worker.

Duties: Keeps buildings and business premises in clean and orderly condition. Performs cleaning duties, such as cleaning floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish from inside and outside of business premises. Performs routine maintenance activities and notifies management of need for repairs. Requisition supplies or equipment needed for cleaning and maintenance duties.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to wstcospn@pticom.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days of hire.

2N Enterprises - Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Electrician, Salary: \$5.05/hr. Installation and repair of wiring, lighting, fixtures, power distribution equipment, devices, power systems, controls and relays. Plans layout, installation and service of electrical equipment, raceways and conductors. Measures, cuts, bends and threads all types of electrical conduit using hand, mechanical and hydraulic benders. Blueprint reading and interpretation capabilities required. Plans new and modified installations to minimize waste of material and to maximize performance of systems.
 Interested applicants may send resume to PO Box 50350 Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) Building and Ground Maintenance, (1) Sale Person, (1) Administrative Assistant
 2 years experience required. Minimum wage. Interested applicants may call 433-0928 for more details
Manglona's House Rental

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION : SALES REPRESENTATIVE (5)
QUALIFICATIONS :
 Bachelor's Degree preferred / High School diploma required

- Minimum of 2 years experience in retail sales of office and school products
- Good working knowledge of MS Word, Excel and DDMs Software
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Must be flexible to work specific schedules, weekends, holidays and overtime as necessary
- Ability to calculate figures & accounts such as discounts, mark-up, percentages, etc.

POSITION : OFFICE MACHINE SERVICER (2)
QUALIFICATIONS :

Associate Degree in Electronics / Mechanical or Broad Specialized Training Equivalent to 2 Years Related to Electronics or Mechanical or Electro-Mechanical
 2-3 years experience with repairing and maintaining different ranges of office equipment / machines
 PC Application proficiency and or Networking fundamental
 Knowledge of digital copiers, MFPs, fax machines, time recorders, cash registers, shredders, printers, typewriters and binding machines
 Must have good verbal and written communication skills
 Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : OFFICE FURNITURE ASSEMBLER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- 1-2 years of assembly, installation and delivery experience in a retail environment
- Proficient with basic furniture assembly & installation hand tools (power drill, power screw drivers, power saw, ratchets, wrenches etc.)
- Must be able to read, understand and follow product assembly and installation instructions of each manufacturer's product line
- Ability to perform work assignments with little or no supervision
- Must be flexible to work nights, weekends, holidays, overtime and off-island as necessary
- Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time
- Job will regularly require lifting of 25-80 lbs and moving of large objects
- Must regularly operate warehouse equipment such as sit-down & stand-up forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
- Must regularly drive a delivery truck
- Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical
- Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :
 Bachelor's Degree preferred / High School diploma required
 2-3 years of successful management experience in distribution / warehouse operation of 5 or more employees
 Must have a good math, reading and writing skills
 Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system
 Must be computer literate
 Must have good working knowledge of DDMs Software
 Must be able to lift 75 lbs on a regular and consistent basis
 Prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
 Must regularly drive a delivery truck
 Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical
 Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
 Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : WAREHOUSE WORKER (2)

QUALIFICATIONS :
 High School diploma required / equivalent work related experience
 At least 2 years of warehouse experience, shipping / receiving, order picking and packing duties
 Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system
 Must be computer literate and able to perform basic function and look up inventory
 Must have good working knowledge of DDMs software
 Must have prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
 Must be able to lift and move 25-50 lbs frequently and up to 80 lbs, occasionally
 Must be able to stand for duration of the job
 Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
 Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :
 At least 5 years experience in maintenance and construction related trades
 Capability to repair all types of problems in masonry construction
 Highly skilled in waterproofing and protection techniques used to control deterioration of structures
 Waterproof and damp proof walls and other building surfaces to help keep buildings dry
 Must have the ability to perform a variety of roof repairs

Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time
 Must be able to lift, pull and push materials and equipment to complete assigned job tasks
 Must be able to lift 50 lbs of weight frequently throughout assigned workday
 Must be able to work in precarious or high locations and also be able to climb and descend ladders or scaffolding

POSITION : RETAIL IN-STORE PRODUCT DEMONSTRATOR (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :
 Associate's Degree Preferred/High School Diploma Required
 Must have at least 2 years preferably current of product demonstrating and sales experience in a retail environment
 Must have thorough knowledge of office & school products
 Strong communication and interpersonal skills
 Good working knowledge of MS word, excel and DDMs Software
 Must be able to stand up to six hours

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 19, 2011.

Wanted - Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Call 532-3423 for interview.

DMY Realty and Management needs....
(2) General Building Maintenance Worker
 Starting Salary \$6.00/hr.
 2 to 4 years work experience in carpentry, plumbing, masonry & electrical w/ references.
 Only U.S. qualified workers need apply.
 Interested applicants may submit their resume at dmyram.saipan@gmail.com

Pacific Taxi Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement
(15 - Taxi Drivers) Salary Rate: \$5.05/hr and \$1.50 per trip.
 Must have at least 1 year of taxi driving experience in the CNMI. Must be a holder of a valid CNMI Driver's License, CNMI Taxi Driver's license, and a CNMI Taxi Bureau Identification Card. Current Police Clearance, Traffic Clearance and traffic History. Willing to work flexible hours.
 Interested applicants may send resume to P.O. Box 10003 PMB 461, Saipan, MP 96950 or call 285-4359/287-8294. Please send your resume no later than Nov. 21, 2011

Gentle Care Home Health

Registered Nurse (1) BSN - US Lic is required NCLEX, IELTS 6.5 if foreign graduate. Psychiatric and or Substance Abuse background to help promote healthy lifestyle changes. 1 1/2 to 2 yrs experience in Home Health & has handled 40-50 Px. Computer literate.

Physical Therapist (2) - BS graduate 2 years experience, US license.

Submit resume to Gentle Care, Beach Road (beside Rainbow Color) or email at gentlecare@saipan@gmail.com or at P.O. Box 503795, CK Saipan MP 96950.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(3) Beauticians

Transfer acceptable. Salary is negotiable.

Hairspeciations
Salon
Call 670-287-6365

JAGUAR LIMITED JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) ASSISTANT MANAGER
 Has 4 year-Degree Course preferably Accounting Graduate. At least 8-10 years work experience. Perform Accounting works in an office and knowledgeable in Peachtree Accounting software, MS office, PowerPoint. Perform clerical job, Bookkeeping and administrative works. Responsible in managing employee schedules, and analyze profit and loss statement of the operation. Willing to work full time with flexible working hours. Salary: \$5.05/hour.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESUME to PMB 697 Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950 or contact our Office at Tel. (670) 233-1545 between 2:30PM - 9:00PM

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC.

One (1) Sales Engineer
 Salary \$1,200.00 - 2000.00 Monthly

- Sales HVACR Mechanical, Electrical and related equipment, parts, supplies with required professional engineering knowledge and judgment on product recommendation
- Prepare estimates on equipment, parts, supplies, or services as needed
- Knowledge on building management system, experience with turbocor compressor and control a plus
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications and prepare shop drawing

POSITION AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY. Application can be obtained and submitted at JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC'S OFFICE AT UNIT 4, G/FLOOR, LIM'S BLDG., COR. BEACH AND MSGR. GUERRERO ROAD, SAN JOSE VILLAGE, SAIPAN OR EMAIL TO: jws@saipan@pticom.com or tony@jws@saipan@pticom.com

POI Aviation Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

Aircraft Service Agent

Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with 2 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning. Performs interior cleaning of various aircraft to include cabins, lavatories and galleys. Knowledgeable in use of different kinds of cleaning equipment, tools and materials. Must be able to obtain CNMI driver license.

Applications can be obtained at the POI Aviation Office at the Continental Cargo Building at the airport. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 21, 2011. Back ground checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION : BID/CONTRACTS SPECIALIST (1)
QUALIFICATIONS :

- Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent Work Related Experience
- Minimum of three years experience in contracts administration
- Background in/Knowledge of government contracts process and negotiation preferred
- Excellent interpersonal skills as well as excellent oral and written communication skills are required
- Must be proficient in DDMs Software with intermediate/advanced skills in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation applications.
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : GOVERNMENT SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER (1)
QUALIFICATIONS :

- Minimum of 10 year business experience including 5 years sales experience in the government sector with a demonstrated record of success
- Ability to manage a pipeline of 50+ accounts at any given time
- Experience with and demonstrated proficiency with MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel) and DDMs Software
- Manage and monitor the MRO purchases of customers
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : CREDIT ANALYST (1)
QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate's Degree in Business/Related Discipline or Equivalent Work Related Experience
- A minimum of five years experience in a credit/collections environment
- Proficiency in MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS Publisher) and DDMs Software
- Strong ability to communicate both orally and in writing
- Ability to be flexible with position duties and scope of work
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 19, 2011.

POSITION : ACCOUNTANT (1)
QUALIFICATIONS :

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting
- Minimum five years work-related experience in general accounting in the retail industry
- Must be able to prepare and maintain G/L, financial statements and reports
- Must be able to prepare payroll and monthly, quarterly and annual tax returns
- Must know CNMI & Federal tax rules
- Must be proficient in MS Word and Excel, Peach Tree Accounting and DDMs Software
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

POSITION : INVENTORY CONTROL SPECIALIST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- 3-5 years experience in related field
- Working knowledge of inventory practices
- Cost accounting background
- Proficient with PC; software to include: word, excel and DDMs
- Ability to write routine reports and correspondence
- Detail oriented and well organized
- Must be flexible to work weekends and holidays
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATE (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate's Degree
- Minimum 4 years work-related experience in general accounting in a retail company.
- Must have extensive knowledge and experience in receivables, payables, shipments documentation, inventory control, costing, billing and invoicing.
- Check documentation to comply with Gov't/Custom Regulatory requirements on imports.
- Must be proficient in MS Excel and Peach Tree Accounting Software.
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 22, 2011.

Job Vacancy Announcement
BAKER
 Knowledge in baking bread, pies, tarts, cookies, cakes, and cupcakes and making chilled desserts. Knowledge in Fondant making, cake and cupcake designing is a must. Must be creative and have a good eye for detail. Must be able to work flexible hours. High school graduate with 2-3 years experience. Salary \$ 5.05/hr.

Email your resume at pieceofcake670@gmail.com

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) General Manager, Salary: \$2,000 - \$2,500.
 10 yrs work exp. Preferably speak and write Japanese.
(1) Mechanical Engineer, Salary: \$1,700 - \$2,200.
 10 yrs work exp. w/Bachelors Degree.

Qualified U.S. workers send resume to Sanki Co. Ltd. at sanki@pticom.com

Se Hoon Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) TOUR COORDINATOR, Salary: \$5.05 - \$10.00/hr. Can Speak and write in Korean language with 2-5 years work related experience. Can work flexible hours and day.

Interested U.S. qualified worker may fax resume to 322-3316.

Sumy, Incorporated is now hiring
(1) General Manager, 5 yrs. Experience in Commercial Space Rental business. Can speak both English and Korean. Interested party shall submit resume with the police clearance and the recommendation letter from previous employer to SUMY, Incorporated or fax to 235-0697.

No Phone Calls Please.

ISDAY, JANUARY 11, 2011

Ivin and Hobbes

I'LL SAY! THE WALLS ARE TWO FEET THICK AND THEY'RE NOT SO HOLLOW, SO I HOLLOWED A HOLE IN HERE!

HAVE YOU FIGHTING?

THEY'RE A SICK GROSS THING, I TELL YOU. I WOULD NOT SWALLOW THAT AROUND THY COULD GET IT.

Adam@home

OKAY, BUDDY, WE'RE GOING TO A TUMBLING CLASS.

HERE'S YOU CAN.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Short

Pastimes

Garfield
 By Bill Watterson

SWALLOW BREAKFAST BEFORE YOU EAT LUNCH

36 FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011

32

Alomar, Blyleven elected to Hall of Fame

By ROSELYN B. MONROE

roselyn.monroe@pticom.com

REPORTER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Restaurant General Manager (1)

Classification: Full-Time, Exempt, 50 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Area General Manager (AGM)

Summary of Responsibilities
Prioritizes, directs and coordinates the activities of the restaurant to continually strengthen its Brand position and maximize its sales and profitability.

Essential Accountabilities

- People:
 - Achieves management staffing and development goals to plan
 - Has active succession plan in place for all positions
 - Improves employee morale through monitoring and showing urgency in caring for employees.
 - Improves staff performance through frequent personal and team coaching
 - Reduces incidences and claims by making safety everyone's top priority
 - Ensures compliance with all applicable laws
- Financial:
 - Achieves sales and profit targets to plan
 - Corrects daily financial deficiencies with urgency.
 - Drives year-over-year growth in sales and profit
- Operations:
 - Delivers/ improves delivery of QSC to franchise operational standards
 - Raises the bar in operational execution
- Assets:
 - Corrects all asset deficiencies with urgency
 - Eliminates any potential for liability with urgency
- Availability:
 - Open availability.
 - Minimum 5 day, 50 hour work week.
 - Vehicle required.

Other Functions

Performs other duties as assigned.

Required Skills

- Analytical: Able to analyze reports and correct deficient areas efficiently.
- Problem Solving: Able to implement TOSIDPAR problem solving techniques to achieve desired results.
- Organization & Planning: Able to organize priorities and develop/ execute plans achieving desired results.
- Coaching: Able to develop the skills of subordinates to perform at a higher level
- Team Building: Able to stabilize staffing and build team bench.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience preferred.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Assistant Restaurant General Manager (1)

Classification: FullTime, Non-Exempt, 40-45 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Restaurant General Manager (RGM)

Summary of Responsibilities
The Assistant Restaurant General Manager reports directly to the Restaurant General Manager. The ARG assist the RGM in the achievement of the people, financial and operational goals of the restaurant.

Essential Accountabilities

- People:
 - Assists RGM in achieving restaurant's staffing and development goals
 - Assists RGM in monitoring/ improving employee morale
 - Personally coaches staff
 - Ensures safety is everyone's top priority
 - Ensures compliance with all applicable laws
- Financial:
 - Assists RGM in achieving sales and profit to plan
 - Displays urgency to correct daily financial control deficiencies
 - Strives to drive year-upon-year growth in sales and profits
- Operations:
 - Delivers/ improves delivery of QSC to franchise operational standards
 - Raises the bar in operational execution
- Assets:
 - Ensures facilities are maintained to franchise standard on a daily basis
 - Displays awareness of asset deficiencies and urgency to correct them
 - Displays awareness and urgency to eliminate any potential for liability
- Availability:
 - Open availability.
 - Minimum 5 day, 40-45 hour work week.
 - Vehicle required.

Other Functions
Performs other duties as assigned.

Education/Experience
High school diploma and previous management experience preferred.

Physical and/or Medical Requirements
Must obtain a Tuberculosis Clearance Certificate. Requires standing and walking for the entire workday.

Working Conditions
Minimal hazards. General restaurant working conditions.

Shift Manager (3)

Classification: Full Time, Non-Exempt, 32-40 hours per week
Department: Operations
Reports To: Assistant Restaurant General Manager (ARGM)
Restaurant General Manager (RGM)

Summary of Responsibilities
The Shift Manager reports directly to the Restaurant General Manager. The SM assists the RGM in the achievement of the restaurant's people, operational and financial goals.

Essential Accountabilities

- People:
 - Assists RGM in achieving restaurant's staffing and development goals
 - Assists RGM in monitoring/ improving employee morale
 - Personally coaches staff
 - Ensures safety is everyone's top priority
 - Ensures compliance to all applicable laws

EMPLOYER'S RIGHTS: This job description does not list all the duties of the job. You may be asked by your supervisors or managers to perform other duties. You will be evaluated in part based upon your performance of the tasks listed in this job description. The employer has the right to revise this job description at any time. The job description is not a contract for employment, and either you or the employer may terminate employment at any time, for any reason.

All interested applicants may get application at Pizza Hut Restaurant in Gualo Rai • Closing Date: November 18, 2011

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	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

Saints beat Falcons in OT on Kasay kick



ATLANTA (AP)—John Kasay kicked a 26-yard field goal in overtime to give the New Orleans Saints a 26-23 victory over Atlanta after Falcons coach Mike Smith decided to go for it on fourth down deep in his own territory Sunday.

The Falcons (5-4) rallied from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter, equalizing on Matt Bryant's 27-yard field goal on the final play of regulation.

In overtime, Atlanta appeared to pick up a first down on a pass to Mike Cox, but he was ruled just short after referee Terry McAuley looked at the replay. Then, stunningly, Smith decided to go for it on fourth down from his own 29.

Michael Turner was stuffed, and Kasay kicked the winning field goal for the Saints (7-3).

New Orleans took control of the NFC South race, ending Atlanta's three-game winning streak. But this one will be long remembered for Smith's call that backfired horribly.

Patriots 37, Jets 16

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Tom Brady threw three touchdown passes, two to Rob Gronkowski, as New England took control of the AFC East with a convincing victory over New York.

After the Jets (5-4) cut it to 23-16 early in the fourth quarter, Brady coolly led the Patriots (6-3) down the field on an 84-yard drive that was capped by an 8-yard touchdown catch by Deion Branch.

New England linebacker Rob Ninkovich sealed the victory on the Jets' next possession with a 12-yard interception return for a touchdown.

The Patriots took over sole possession of top spot in the division by inflicting the Jets' first home loss this season, and snapping their three-game winning streak.

Cardinals 21, Eagles 17

In Philadelphia, John Skelton threw a 5-yard touchdown pass to Early Doucet with 1:53 left to lift Arizona.

Michael Vick had another so-so performance and the Eagles (3-6) blew a fourth-quarter lead for the fifth time this season.

Starting for the injured Kevin Kolb, Skelton threw three touchdown passes to lead the Cardinals (3-6). Larry Fitzgerald had two TD catches and made a sensational, over-the-shoulder diving catch to set up the go-ahead score.

The defending NFC East champion Eagles were expected to be Super Bowl contenders after a slew of big-name acquisitions in the offseason. Instead,

they've lost seven of their past eight home games.

Broncos 17, Chiefs 10

In Kansas City, Tim Tebow hit Eric Decker on a 56-yard touchdown pass, one of his two completions in the game, to guide Denver to victory.

Denver (4-5) played almost the entire game without leading rushers Willis McGahee and Knowshon Moreno. McGahee hurt his hamstring and Moreno went down with a knee injury in the first quarter.

Lance Ball ran for 96 yards and Tebow added 44 yards and a touchdown on the ground, helping the Broncos win for the third time in four games with the former Heisman Trophy winner under center.

Steelers 24, Bengals 17

In Cincinnati, Rashard Mendenhall ran for a pair of touchdowns, while Pittsburgh intercepted rookie Andy Dalton twice in the fourth quarter.

Pittsburgh (7-3) got a needed win by putting together long, balanced drives while thousands of Steelers fans waved Terrible Towels in the first sellout crowd of the season at Paul Brown Stadium.

Dalton handled most of what Steelers defensive coordinator Dick LeBeau threw at him. He had two more touchdown passes, giving him 14 overall—the most by a rookie quarterback in his first nine games since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970.

49ers 27, Giants 20

In San Francisco, Justin Smith batted down Eli Manning's pass in the closing seconds as San Francisco won its seventh straight game.

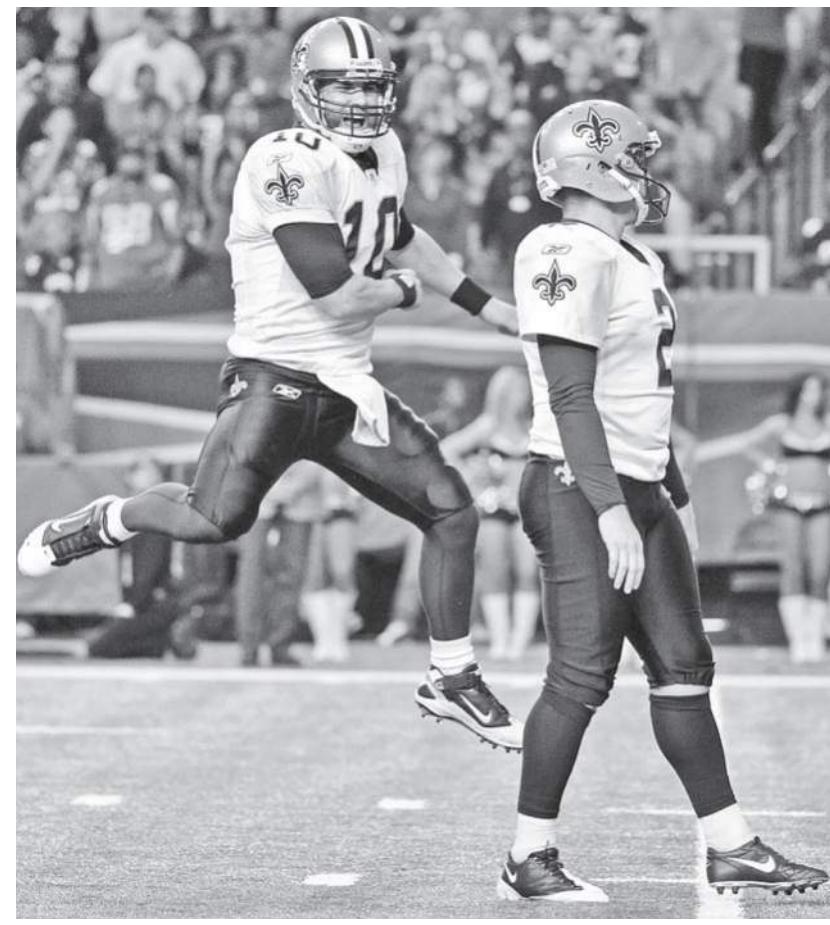
Manning completed a pair of long fourth-down passes and got the Giants (6-3) down to the 10, but on fourth-and-2 with 1:51 left, Smith made a leaping right-handed smack of the ball.

In a game between division leaders, the 49ers (8-1) didn't rely on Frank Gore, whose franchise-record streak of five straight games with 100 yards rushing ended with a knee injury.

Bears 37, Lions 13

In Chicago, Charles Tillman and Major Wright returned interceptions for touchdowns early in the third quarter, and Chicago picked off Matthew Stafford four times.

The four interceptions by Stafford matched his season total entering the game and helped knock the Lions (6-3) into a second-place tie with Chicago in the NFC North. He was also involved



New Orleans Saints quarterback Chase Daniel (10) reacts after John Kasay (2) kicked the winning field goal in overtime of an NFL football game against the Atlanta Falcons, Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011, in Atlanta.

for the first time since Oct. 2.

Texans 37, Buccaneers 9

In Tampa, Matt Schaub threw for two long touchdowns, while Arian Foster, Ben Tate and Derrick Ward each ran for scores to help AFC South-leading Houston.

The Texans (7-3) extended their winning streak while playing without star receiver Andre Johnson to four consecutive games and head into their bye week with their best record through 10 games. The Bucs (4-5) have lost three straight and four of five following a 3-1 start.

Cowboys 44, Bills 7

In Arlington, Tony Romo guided touchdown drives on his first four possessions, throwing for the score on three of them, and Terence Newman returned one of his two interceptions for a touchdown.

The Cowboys (5-4) have won consecutive games and could be at the start of a big surge. Their next three foes went into this weekend a combined 6-18.

Romo completed his first 13 passes, including TD strikes of 34 yards to Dez Bryant and of 58 and 5 yards to Laurent Robinson. He finished 23 of 26, setting the franchise record for single-game accuracy by hitting 88.5 percent of his passes.

Dolphins 20, Redskins 9

In Miami, Reggie Bush scored two touchdowns and Miami twice intercepted Rex Grossman to earn their first home victory in nearly a year.

The Dolphins ended a franchise-record streak of seven consecutive losses in Miami since last Nov. 14.

Miami (2-7) won for the second week in a row after starting 0-7. The Redskins (3-6) dropped their fifth consecutive game, the longest losing streak of Mike Shanahan's career as a head coach.

Rams 13, Browns 12

In Cleveland, Phil Dawson missed a 22-yard field goal attempt after a bounced snap with just over two minutes left as Cleveland bungled another chance to win a game.

Dawson made four field goals in blustery conditions, but his line-drive attempt with 2:09 sailed left and capped a series of late gaffes by the Browns (3-6).

Long snapper Ryan Pontbriand's snap appeared to hit the right leg of one of Cleveland's linemen, causing the ball to skip back to holder Brad Maynard, who did a great job of placing the ball. However, Dawson's timing was thrown off and he missed the chip shot.

in a skirmish that led to an ejection of Chicago's D.J. Moore early in the fourth quarter.

By then, the Bears (6-3) had locked up their fourth straight win thanks to a dominant defensive effort and another punt return for a touchdown by Devin Hester, who ran one back 82 yards. That extended his NFL record to 12.

Seahawks 22, Ravens 17

In Seattle, Steven Hauschka matched a club record with five field goals and Marshawn Lynch scored on a 1-yard plunge.

A week after staking claim to the lead of the AFC North with a thrilling last-second win at Pittsburgh, the Ravens flopped on the West Coast in an all too similar fashion to letdowns twice already this season.

After routing Pittsburgh in its opener, the Ravens (6-3) were dominated in a loss at Tennessee. Just a few weeks ago, after an impressive win over AFC South-leading Houston, the Ravens lost to Jacksonville.

Jaguars 17, Colts 3

In Indianapolis, Blaine Gabbert threw for a touchdown and Maurice Jones-Drew ran for another score to keep the

Colts winless.

Jones-Drew carried 25 times for 114 yards and became the second player in franchise history to top 6,000 yards rushing. It was the first road win of the season for Jacksonville (3-6).

Indianapolis remained the NFL's last winless team, dropping to 0-10 for the first time since 1997.

Gabbert hooked up with Jarrett Dillard on an 11-yard TD pass late in the third quarter to break a 3-3 tie, and Jones-Drew capped an 8-yard drive with a 3-yard touchdown run late in the fourth to seal it.

Titans 30, Panthers 3

In Charlotte, Chris Johnson ran for a season-high 130 yards and a touchdown, and Tennessee used a stifling defense to frustrate rookie Cam Newton.

The Titans (5-4) sacked Newton five times and took away Carolina's long passing game. Carolina (2-7) came in ranked fifth in the league on offense and first in plays of 20-plus yards, but the Titans limited Newton to 209 yards passing and held Steve Smith, the NFC's leading receiver, to 33 yards.

Johnson had 174 yards from scrimmage and eclipsed 100 yards rushing

free agent Albert Pujols in the fold.

"I think Matheny will be a great manager, given time," Duncan said. "He lacks managing experience, but it shows a lot about his character that the Cardinals hired him."

Matheny was with the Giants when his career was ended by concussions in 2006.

"He's a great leader, and an even better person," Edmonds said. "I think this is great. There's nobody that's going to work any harder than Mike."

Matheny's coaching staff could include some familiar names.

Pitching coach Dave Duncan, who was La Russa's right hand all 33 seasons, has one year remaining on his contract. The Cardinals have considered promoting Maloney in recent years, and Oquendo also could stay.

Cardinals choose Matheny as La Russa's successor



ST. LOUIS (AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals are replacing a manager who's third on the career victory list with a man who'll be writing his first lineup card on opening day.

Mike Matheny, a former catcher with the Cardinals who had been a minor league instructor, will be introduced as Tony La Russa's successor at a news conference Monday.

"I think he's going to be a great leader," Jim Edmonds, a teammate of Matheny's with the Cardinals, said Sunday night in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "If he goes out there and does what he's capable of doing and they put the players around

him, he could be the manager for the next 20 years."

The 41-year-old Matheny played for the Cardinals from 2000-04, won three of his four Gold Gloves and was part of three postseason efforts including a World Series. He became a team leader playing for La Russa, who retired just days after leading the team to his second World Series title in 16 seasons.

Matheny's playing career blossomed after he signed a one-year free-agent deal to be the backup catcher in St. Louis. Though a career .239 hitter, Matheny did enough defensively to earn a starting job.

Matheny was one of six men the Car-

dinals interviewed to replace La Russa.

They also talked to Hall of Famer Ryne Sandberg, longtime Cardinals third-base coach Jose Oquendo, former Boston manager Terry Francona, Triple-A manager Chris Maloney, and Chicago White Sox coach Joe McEwing.

General manager John Mozeliak declined to comment on the hire aside from a one-word text to The Associated Press: "Tomorrow." La Russa did not respond to telephone and text messages.

Francona was the only candidate who had major league managing experience. He left the Red Sox after the team collapsed in September.

Oquendo coached for La Russa the

last dozen years after playing the final decade of his career with the Cardinals and has had a handful of interviews for managing openings.

The Cardinals received permission to interview Sandberg, manager of the Phillies' Triple-A team.

Former Cardinals outfielder Chris Duncan, who played for La Russa and is on local sports talk radio, thought the Cardinals would go with Francona because it gave them the best chance to retain momentum from their unlikely World Series run. The Cardinals won the NL wild card on the final day of the season and were underdogs against the Phillies, Brewers and Rangers, but have a solid returning cast with or without

Chalmers wins Australian Open; Woods finishes 3rd



SYDNEY

(A P) —

The loudest cheers were for

Tiger Woods. The Australian Open belonged to Greg Chalmers.

Chalmers won his national championship for the second time, closing with a 3-under 69 Sunday to hold off a late charge by Woods and a 50-foot birdie putt by John Senden that nearly forced a playoff.

Woods had his best chance of winning all year.

"Two holes on the back nine today, and I putted awful yesterday, or I would have been right there," Woods said.

Two tee shots led to bogeys on the back nine, though he also made birdie on the second-toughest hole at The Lakes on No. 12, then chipped in from just off the green for eagle on the 14th. Woods missed a 12-foot eagle putt on the 17th for a share of the lead.

Behind him, Chalmers made his final birdie with a brilliant tee shot on the par-3 15th hole to tap-in range, then played mistake-free down the stretch and picked up a meaningful par on the par-3 18th with an up-and-down from the bunker.

Chalmers last won the Australian Open in 1998 at Royal Adelaide, a week before the Presidents Cup in Melbourne.

The matches return to Royal Melbourne next week, and Woods at least showed that he wasn't a complete waste of a captain's pick by Fred Couples. He not only was the low American by finishing alone in third, he looked good doing it.

It was his best result against a full field since Woods last won two years

ago at the Australian Masters.

"I felt great," Woods said. "It's nice to finally be healthy again."

Chalmers finished at 13-under 275. It was a strong field for the Australian Open, with eight Americans on the Presidents Cup team getting ready for next week. That included Woods, a steady presence on the leaderboard.



AP

Australia's Greg Chalmers holds the winner's trophy after the Australian Open golf tournament in Sydney, Australia, Sunday.

For Chalmers, satisfaction came from his name on the silver trophy again.

"I don't know if it's extra gratification," Chalmers said of beating a field that included a 14-time major champion. "I've got my name twice on that Stonehaven Cup."

Senden, the 54-hole leader, faltered early but gave himself a chance late

with a good pitch across the 17th green for birdie. His long putt on the 18th went over the ridge and broke back toward the high side of the cup but missed by inches. He closed with a 72.

Defending champion Geoff Ogilvy had a 7-under 65 to tie for fourth with Adam Scott (68), Nick Watney (72), Nick O'Hern (72) and Jason Day, who

hit his opening tee shot in the water and had a 74.

"If I keep putting myself in these kinds of positions, it's only a matter of time I learn the formula and break through and start to win," said Day, who has only one PGA Tour win in his four years on the U.S. tour. "I'm very positive about where my game is right now."

Six players from the top 10 at The Lakes will be at Royal Melbourne next week for the Presidents Cup.

Woods was within two shots of the lead when he made the turn, having gone mistake-free on the front nine to at least give himself a chance on the risk-reward holes along the back nine of The Lakes.

The task became tougher the way he played the 11th, which ultimately forced a bad decision two holes later.

Woods again hooked his tee shot on the par-5 11th, although with the wind at his back, it sailed over the portable toilet and into a sand dune where spectators had been walking all week. His ball was deep in a heel print, and he played an explosion shot sideways just to get out of that mess. He wound up missing a 7-foot par putt.

He made up for that with an 18-foot birdie on the 12th—one of only five birdies on that hole Sunday—and couldn't figure out how to play the 315-yard 13th. He went with driver for the second straight day, and this time it cost him.

"I shouldn't have gone for it," Woods said. "It's a tough tee shot for me because I'm caught right between clubs. Driver is too much and 3-wood is not enough. I tried to hit a big, slicing driver in there and should have just laid up."

"Unfortunately, I made the wrong decision and it cost me a shot."

Union to meet Monday to discuss NBA's offer



MIAMI (AP)—Decision day for NBA players may have arrived. And on the eve of perhaps the biggest meeting of the lockout, the league took its talking points to the public.

The players' association will meet in New York on Monday morning, a session that could lead to the end of the lockout or send it into a bigger tailspin. Representatives from all 30 teams are expected, as are other players, to examine and discuss a seven-page summary of the NBA's latest collective bargaining proposal to the union.

The proposal, which was obtained by The Associated Press, was dated Friday and addressed to union executive director Billy Hunter. Some who will be in the NBPA meeting said Sunday they had not yet seen it, creating some confusion over what exactly is on the table.

"We haven't asked for anything more than what we had," Miami player representative James Jones said Sunday. "We understand the times. We understand the economy. We just want a fair deal where both sides are bearing the weight of the present times and with an eye on the future of the game of basketball."

Sounds so simple. But it's not.

By Monday, things could finally become clear—because this union meeting may decide if basketball will be played this season.

But first, the NBA tried reaching the

masses directly Sunday night.

Commissioner David Stern and Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver went on Twitter and talked everything from contraction (which has been discussed) to sending players to the D-League at slashed salaries (which isn't in the proposal).

Among those asking: Miami's Dwyane Wade and Philadelphia's Spencer Hawes. One of Hawes' questions was "since we have covered all of your alleged losses (and more) why am I not getting ready for a game tonight?" The league said it disagreed with the premise.

Wade asked, "why are all your 'system solutions' only impacting the PLAYERS?? What have the owners (given) up of significance???" The NBA responded, "The economics & system favored the players in prior CBA," then again said team losses topped \$300 million last season.

Someone asked if the league would consider replacement players. The answer: "Our goal is a season with our current players." Another wanted to know if contracts would become void if the NBPA decertifies, and the league said yes.

Next came a 92-second video the NBA posted to YouTube, which showed projections for a \$7.7 million average salary for players in the 10th year of the current proposed deal and even had a hypothetical breakdown of what a team may look like in 2013-14, with a "superstar" making \$17 mil-

lion, an "All-Star" making \$14 million, other starters making between \$8-10 million and with a total payroll of about \$77 million.

That projection means team payrolls will in theory top \$115 million by the proposed deal's end, which could come to the chagrin of many owners. On Saturday, Stern said again if the current offer is rejected, a harsher one—where owners would keep about another \$120 million of basketball related income annually, along with other system issues players didn't want—will take its place.

"We're not going to cancel the season this week," Stern said. "We're just going to present them what we told them we would."

The NBA wants a 72-game season to begin Dec. 15. For that to happen, a handshake deal would be needed this week, given that Stern said it will take about 30 days to get the season after an agreement is reached.

There are 17 topics in the memo, including how teams paying a luxury tax cannot acquire free agents in sign-and-trade deals after the 2012-13 season. One of the key points comes on Page 5, where the NBA says "there will be no limitations on a player's ability to receive 100% guaranteed salary in all seasons of a contract."

Players have repeatedly said they will reject any deal without guaranteed contracts.

"I'm going to sit down take a look at the deal and analyze it," Minne-

sota player rep Anthony Tolliver said Sunday, the lockout's 136th day. "Not like it's the first offer or the last offer, but just as one where I'll say 'Would I or my teammates want to play under these conditions??'"

Among the other points outlined in the summary sent to Hunter by Silver:

■ The union will choose between accepting either a 50-50 split of BRI or a band where they may receive between 49 percent and 51 percent, depending on economic projections;

■ All teams may still use a mid-level exception, though rules vary on whether a franchise is above or below the luxury-tax level;

■ Minimum team payrolls would be at least 85 percent of the salary cap in 2011-12 and 2012-13, and 90 percent starting in 2013-14;

■ Luxury tax rates would rise after the third year of the deal;

■ Maximum contract lengths would not exceed five years, and annual raises would be cut significantly to a maximum of 6.5 percent;

■ There would be an "amnesty" provision where a team may waive one player before any season, if that player was under contract at the inception of the CBA, and have his salary removed from the team's totals for luxury-tax and salary-cap purposes.

"I was a little bit more hopeful last week than I am this week," Tolliver said. "I'm trying not to be too negative but it's kind of hard not to when it's been this long and this many meetings. It's hard not to get continuously more pessimistic by the day. Hopefully this deal will blow me away in a good way."

But it's hard to believe that's going to be the case."

Meanwhile, talks about decertifying continue—even though the NBA said deals would become void if that happens.

An agent who spoke with the AP on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the ongoing dispute said "a lot of petitions have been signed already," but acknowledged some players aren't sure that move would get owners to relent on any issues.

"I would say the thing I don't like the most isn't about the deal specifically, but is the lack of information on what's actually on the table," the agent said. "That's the most frustrating thing. ... I think that the guys should actually know what's being proposed and decide from there."

Another person directly involved with the negotiations told the AP the NBA side is frustrated that the league's current offer is already being poorly received, even though most players have not seen the proposal.

That person reiterated Stern's words: The next offer will be much worse.

"It's time to think rationally about what we're talking about here," the person involved with negotiations said. "This is the deal. We've come too far. We've talked it out. This is the deal and there are things in this deal that neither side will like. Everyone made concessions. It's time to decide. We all talk about these arena workers and the effect this has on the local economy, all those things. If we mean what we say about those workers, this deal gets done and the season starts Dec. 15."

ERRATUM

The co-second runner-up in last Saturday's 16th Annual Club At The Hyatt Golf Classic included Team 6A members Mel Sablan, Norman Tenorio, Victor Camacho, and Jesse Sablan. John Fegurgur was mistakenly listed as a member of the team. Our apologies.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	6	3	0	.667	259	200
N.Y. Jets	5	4	0	.556	215	200
Buffalo	5	4	0	.556	229	218
Miami	2	7	0	.222	158	178

South

Houston	7	3	0	.700	273	166
Tennessee	5	4	0	.556	186	172
Jacksonville	3	6	0	.333	115	166
Indianapolis	0	10	0	.000	131	300

North

Pittsburgh	7	3	0	.700	220	179
Baltimore	6	3	0	.667	225	152
Cincinnati	6	3	0	.667	212	164
Cleveland	3	6	0	.333	131	183

West

Oakland	5	4	0	.556	208	233
San Diego	4	5	0	.444	216	228
Denver	4	5	0	.444	188	234
Kansas City	4	5	0	.444	141	218

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

N.Y. Giants	6	3	0	.667	218	211
Dallas	5	4	0	.556	223	182
Philadelphia	3	6	0	.333	220	203
Washington	3	6	0	.333	136	178

South

New Orleans	7	3	0	.700	313	228
Atlanta	5	4	0	.556	212	196
Tampa Bay	4	5	0	.444	156	233
Carolina	2	7	0	.222	190	237

North

Green Bay	8	0	0	1.000	275	179
Detroit	6	3	0	.667	252	184
Chicago	6	3	0	.667	237	187
Minnesota	2	6	0	.250	172	199

West

San Francisco	8	1	0	.889	233	138
Seattle	3	6	0	.333	144	202
Arizona	3	6	0	.333	183	213
St. Louis	2	7	0	.222	113	223

Yesterday's Games

Dallas	44	Buffalo	7
Denver	17	Kansas City	10
Miami	20	Washington	9
St. Louis	13	Cleveland	12
Arizona	21	Philadelphia	17
Tennessee	30	Carolina	3
Pittsburgh	24	Cincinnati	17
Houston	37	Tampa Bay	9
New Orleans	26	Atlanta	23
Jacksonville	17	Indianapolis	3
Seattle	22	Baltimore	17
San Francisco	27	N.Y. Giants	20
Chicago	37	Detroit	13
New England	37	N.Y. Jets	16

AUSTRALIAN OPEN GOLF SCORES

SYDNEY (AP) — Scores Sunday at the Australian Open on the par-72, 6,290-meter (6,879-yard) The Lakes Golf Club (a-dentates amateur):

FINAL ROUND

Greg Chalmers, Australia 67-72-67-69—275

PIC

From Page 28

chances in the playoffs where only the Top 8 teams after the round-robin regular season will advance. Shirley has a 1-5 record with three games left and is in a tie for eighth to ninth place with Grillin'.

Kae Bernardo paced Shirley's with 28 points, posting 14 of them in the fourth quarter where the host pulled away. Shirley's was up by only seven after the third canto, 60-53, when Bernardo waxed hot in the fourth and J.R. Barrios and Errol Peredo backed him up after adding eight and six markers, respectively. Barrios and Peredo also finished in double digits with 25 and 21 points.

Barrios had his best offensive game in the opening quarter where he fired nine points to power Shirley's to a 25-16 advantage. Shirley's made it a 44-28 edge at halftime with Peredo and Bernardo finding their tar-

get in the second canto. In the third period, Grillin' outgunned Shirley's for the first time, 25-16, to slice the lead to single digit. However, Grillin' failed to keep the fire burning in the fourth canto with only Leroi Pagaro scoring more than two points in the payoff frame, while the trio of Barrios, Bernardo, Peredo finished the job for Shirley's.

First Game
Shirley's 90 — Bernardo 28, Barrios 25, Peredo 21, Usi 6, De Dios 5, Sedillo 4, Galang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-16, 44-28, 60-53, 90-76.

Second Game
PIC/NVM 111 — Rasa 19, JR Mina 25, Abuy 20, Je. Mina 15, Diaz 10, Johanes 8, Ortiz 2.

GPPC 106 — Mungcal 43, Ocampo 26, Sampang 17, Tolentino 13, Rivera 7, Jalandoni 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-27, 51-45, 71-72, 96-96, 111-106.

IT&E Voyagers, Shark Attack remain in front

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Jonny's IT&E Voyagers and Wild Bill's Bar & Grill's Shark Attack are still riding the wave in first place of the Saipan Billiards Association's 2011 Budweiser Summer/Fall Open 8-Ball League's Aagingan and Obyan fields after the conclusion of Tuesday's matchups.

Both teams have been in control of their respective divisions for the majority of the season.

IT&E Voyagers downed sister-team IT&E Incredibles, 6-1, at home to improve their win-

loss record to 60-17.

IT&E Voyagers are soaring above the field with a 12-game margin.

IT&E Incredibles remains in second place after the hit, but fell to a slate of 48-29.

Third-ranked Docomo Hustlers of Utopia Bar (43-34) shut out VFW Post 3457's X-Tream (21-56), 7-0, on the road to pull within five games of the runner-up spot.

Jonny's Home Boyz Five (42-35) went into Joe's Steakhouse and defeated Fotten Palau (17-60), 5-2.

IT&E Voyagers' Roman Ro-

driguez and Rolly Villanueva and Docomo Hustlers' Senen Pangelinan all ran the rack three times, while X-Tream's Joseph Achas has sunk the eight ball off the break twice.

In Obyan play, Shark Attack edged out Jonny's Crazy 8, 4-3, at home to improve its card to 50-27. Crazy 8 fell to a record of 36-41.

Shark Attack enjoys a nine-game lead over D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Pirata, who snuck past Jonny's Team SCS (38-39), 4-3, on the road.

19th Hole Bar's Poksu (39-

"MM or MP? We have no choice but to pick MP, as in 96950. For sure someone with Man in its first name deserves to win since boxing is a MANLY sport played out in smelly, MANLY surroundings with blood-spattered guests seated in the first couple of rows on tough, hard MANLY seats. Mainly, I think Manuel is the manlier of the two and manifestly deserved the win," Bateman said.

Hawaii-based swimmer Rezne Wong said the fight could have gone either way, but not via majority decision.

"As far as I support Manny for his character, sportsmanship, and his life story, I think the fight should have at least been a split. Marquez, in my opinion, was more aggressive and more tactical in the fight. You can tell that

The Rebels battled their way back into the match when action picked back up Sunday night and knotted up the count at 47-all heading into the fourth quarter.

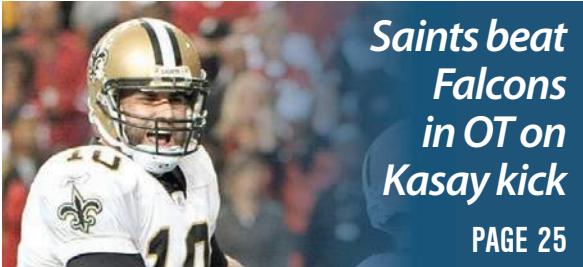
Sablan lit up Mobil with 37 points in a gem of a game, while Demapan and Maratita tallied 20 apiece on the short end.

Back in Saturday night's late tiff, FGC built a healthy 17-9 advantage in the opening 10 minutes off six points apiece from Kae Bernardo and Leroi Pagaro. Rebels' Sahj Hossain managed six against the early onslaught.

Teams traded baskets in the second quarter as FGC maintained a 38-30 lead at halftime.

FGC's Pagaro added six points in the period, while Trevor or Ogumoro chipped in seven for the Rebels, but heavy rainfall during the break forced organizers to postpone the match until Sunday.

Hossain led all scorers with 21 points, while FGC's Banjo Basila buried 10 free throws and



Saints beat
Falcons
in OT on
Kasay kick
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Chalmers wins
Australian
Open; Woods
finishes 3rd

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pacquiao's win stirs passionate debate

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Two friends were having a late dinner Sunday night and in between bites, they were also engaged in a heated debate. No, they were not talking of the pros and cons of the extension of federal immigrations laws in the CNMI nor the legalization or not of casino gambling here.

BOXING The frenzied conversation was about the Manny Pacquiao-Manuel Marquez bout at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas with the Filipino icon pulling off a controversial decision over



Manny Pacquiao, of the Philippines celebrates after his victory over Mexico's Juan Manuel Marquez during a WBO welterweight title fight Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011, in Las Vegas.

the Mexican fighter. Pacquiao won on the scorecards of two judges after 12 grueling rounds, 115-113 and 116-112. The third judge had it tied, 114-114.

The contentious decision sparked discussions among boxing fans around the world, including those from Saipan. Some claimed Marquez was robbed off the victory for the second time, others said Pacquiao deserved to win for landing more despite not dominating his foe this time.

"First of all, I thought the fight was very exciting. In all 12 rounds, Pacquiao was the aggressor and was bringing the fight to Marquez. Marquez however was sensational in counter fighting and in countering Pacquiao's offense," Trench Tech president and MMA fighter Cuki Alvarez said.

"Although Marquez didn't look as flashy or as quick as

See **PACQUIAO** on
Page 27



Kang, Yanai reset age group records

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami

Lukas Kang and Ryuto Yanai got off to a strong start in the Tsunami Saipan-organized Swim Circuit Series after breaking CNMI age group records in the first leg of the meet held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Kang timed in at 1:23.74 in

the 100m backstroke event in the boys U8 division to eclipse the 1:26.54 he submitted on Feb. 5, 2011. Notably, Kang's new age group record is faster than the 9 to 10 mark (1:25.57) of Kento Akimaru made on Oct. 15, 2011.

Two other swimmers joined the 100m backstroke race with Tsunami Saipan's Hiroto Yanai and Saipan Swim Club's Taiga Saito timing in at

See **KANG** on Page 27

PIC snaps skid with OT win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's COFFEE SHOP Defending champion Pacific Islands Club/NVM is back on track after slipping past GPPC in overtime, 111-106, during the second game in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League last Sunday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

PIC pulled off the victory in the extension period after coming off back-to-back losses. The defending champion now has a 5-2 record for a share of third place with DFS Galleria and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. GPPC fell to a 1-6 record and is at the bottom of the team standings in the 10-squad field.

J.R. Mina scored seven points in overtime, while Ponce Rasa canned three important free throws to lift PIC to the five-point win. Jessie Mina and Zidny Johanes added one field goal apiece to help PIC's cause.

Only three players contributed for GPPC in the extra five minutes of the game with Randy Mungcal making five markers and Jerry Tolentino and Alex Ocampo chipping in three and two, respectively.

Rasa top-scored for PIC with 29 points, nailing 10 of them in the fourth period that ended in



a deadlock, 96-all. Mungcal led all scorers with his 43 points.

The GPPC gunner exploded for 12 early points in first period, while Ocampo had 10 to give their team a 27-24 cushion. Tables turned in the second canto, as PIC hit five triples against GPPC's two for a 51-45 advantage.

The seesaw battle continued in the second half with GPPC reclaiming the lead after the third period, 72-71, behind the nine points of Mungcal and eight markers apiece of Ocampo and Boboy Sampang.

It was another back and forth game in the fourth period with GPPC forcing overtime after Sampang canned a triple in the closing seconds of the regulation. Sampang scored in all four quarters of the game but went cold in the extension period, allowing PIC to eke out the win.

Shirley's 90, Grillin' 76

In the first game, Shirley's barged into the win column after dominating Grillin'.

The victory boosted the host's

See **PIC** on Page 27

PIC/NVM's Ponce Rasa, seen here going for a layup in their game against Mobil, scored 29 points in their 111-106 overtime win over GPPC in the Shirley's caging last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Konflikt-IT&E's Dave Sablan attacks the basket in their GBL-IT&E Cup game against Mobil held last Sunday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Konflikt-IT&E outlasts Mobil in OT

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Konflikt-IT&E sparked a late surge in a back-and-forth duel with Mobil and held on



strong in the clutch to snatch a 92-84 victory in overtime in Sunday's Garapan Basketball League IT&E Cup held at the Garapan Basketball Court.

A continuation match preceded the main game, which ended in the Rebels overcoming an eight-point halftime deficit to upset FGC, 72-66.

Both Konflikt-IT&E and the Rebels are officially on a winning streak with a pair of wins

apiece, while Mobil dropped its second game in three matches and FGC (2-1) was issued its first loss. Notably, Sunday's winners are also the only two unbeaten teams left in GBL's eight-team field.

Mobil trailed by three, 59-62, heading into the final period of regulation, but rallied at crunch time to force overtime, 77-77.

IT&E then nailed a trio of 3-pointers in the extra period to take the win.

IT&E's Elmer Esdrelon, Dave Sablan, and Wowie Abuel each helped make it rain in the shining moment.

See **KONFLIKT** on Page 27